

The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD.

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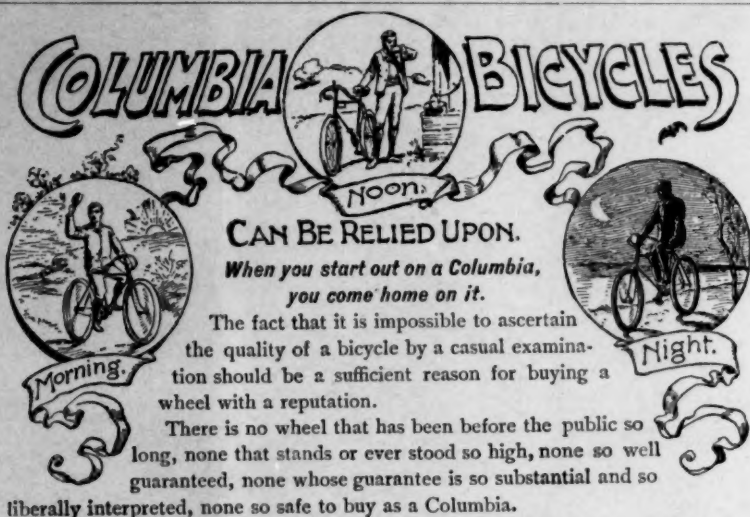
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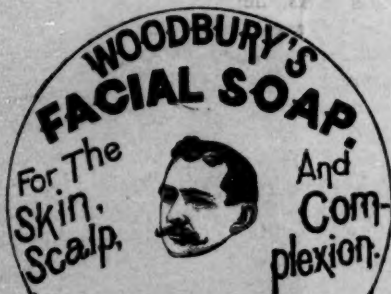
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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE SENATE TARIFF DEBATE.

THE Senate has proceeded with the general debate of the Tariff Bill under an agreement between the party-leaders. Senator Hill, of New York, spoke on Monday of last week, and was followed by Senators Lodge, Hale, Pepper, and Mitchell. Senator Hill's speech was chiefly an attack on the income-tax feature of the Bill, but it incidentally criticized the general principles upon which it is based. "The Bill," said Mr. Hill, "pro-



SENATOR HILL.

poses a suicidal policy when it seeks by its extreme provisions to discard numerous reasonable Tariff duties and thereby imperil many industries and create a deficiency in necessary revenues, simply for the purpose of affording an opportunity or excuse for the substitution of an income-tax. There is an ample field for genuine Tariff-reform without resort to such an unwise and dangerous experiment. The substitution of internal or direct taxes for custom-house taxation means the reduction of the wages of American workmen to the European standards. It means the degradation of labor; it means the deprivation to our workmen of the comforts and luxuries of life to which they have been accus-

tomed." With regard to the income-tax, Mr. Hill argued that it was neither just nor expedient, and he thought that sufficient revenue would be obtained without it. He declared himself ready to vote for the Mills Bill, or even one providing for lower duties. Whether or not he will vote for the Wilson Bill if its provisions are not changed, Mr. Hill did not explicitly state.

Senator Lodge in his speech discussed the abstract question, the relative merits of Free Trade and Protection, rather than the provisions of the Wilson Bill. He endeavored to show by statis-

tics that Free Trade has failed in England. "We leave to the free trader," he said, "the privilege of claiming that he has a panacea for all human ills in a patent Tariff-policy. We uphold a system of Tariff-protection because we believe it is one important method of defending the standards of living in the United States from a fatal and degrading competition. We believe in maintaining, defending, and uplifting the standards of living of the American people, because upon those standards rest our civilization and the onward march of our race."

Senator Hale called attention to the bearing of the Bill on the Canadian annexation - movement. "Without any condition or reciprocity," he said, "this Bill gives up every particle of protection which farmers and others on this side of the border now have for the benefit of the Canadian farmer, and thereby postpones indefinitely any prospect of annexation. The moment that the Canadians get what they want by a Democratic Free Trade Tariff, that moment the annexation sentiment dies out; and we may look to see as the legitimate result of this Bill, if it passes and is maintained for the next few years, the dying-out of the annexation sentiment on the other side, and the American people will find themselves confronted with a rival, perhaps hostile, Dominion all along our entire Northern border. This in itself is so important a consideration that, in the broad domain of statesmanship, it ought to be alone a death-blow to this Bill."

Senator Pepper said that the Populists had no Tariff-plank in their platform, but that they believed in a graduated income-tax, and regarded it as the most equitable system of taxation. Personally he favored a graduated tax on large landed estates. He argued that the Bill discriminated against the farmers. All that the farmers asked was that they should have the benefit of protective duties, the same as the manufacturers had, but it was out of order, he thought, to call the pending Bill a Tariff-reform measure. It was neither a Tariff for protection nor a Tariff for revenue.

Comment on Senator Hill's Speech.

Sincere and intelligent opponents will not deny Senator Hill credit for a remarkably strong and convincing speech on the Tariff Bill. Most of his party friends will denounce him, for their folly has brought ruin. His speech is not merely a powerful argument against the income-tax, for he assails with unanswerable logic the purposes and principles on which the whole Tariff Bill was framed.—*The Tribune (Rep.)*, New York.

When a soldier throws down his arms just as the order is given to advance upon the enemy's works, merely because he hates the officer in command, there is but one name by which he can be known in the ranks of those among whom he has been enrolled. David Bennett Hill has chosen to openly aid the enemy.—*The Globe (Dem.)*, Boston.

It is, of course, absurd to consider Senator Hill's speech as a serious and honest effort to enlighten the country or to help his fellow-Senators to a solution of the problem which now confronts them. He has neither the learning nor the intellectual capacity to fit him for this task; but even if these be granted him, he must still be looked upon as an unsafe guide, for the reason that he is invariably ruled by low and selfish motives.



SENATOR LODGE.

He is a statesman for vengeance only, and he always takes the personal view.—*The News (Ind.)*, Indianapolis.

What mainly robs the speech of serious value is the unconcealed animosity to the Administration that runs through it, and that evidently is its animating purpose.—*The Times (Ind. Dem.)*, Philadelphia.

This speech of the senior Democratic Senator from the President's own State may or may not have killed off the iniquitous and pernicious measure which provoked it; the event will show as to that. It has at least made the consummation of the crime against Northern industries and wage-earners appreciably more difficult and doubtful. It has inflicted a wound on the Cleveland Administration that will not heal quickly.—*The Courant (Rep.)*, Hartford.

Senator Hill, with all his political faults, has struck a great blow in behalf of the people of the United States who are demanding a cessation of Tariff-tinkering by the politicians and a chance for workingmen to get employment, for merchants to regain their lost trade, for manufacturers to start again the wheels of industry, for farmers to again reap a fair profit from the soil, and for all citizens to resume their vocations and enjoy their pursuits in life.—*The Hawk-Eye (Rep.)*, Burlington, Va.

The only importance attaching to Hill's effort arises from its being an attack upon his own party and the President. In point of fact, his effort was a bitter assault upon Cleveland, under cover of a speech on the Wilson Bill. He was especially severe upon the income-tax provision of that patchwork measure, and arraigned Cleveland because he "did not put a Democrat at the head of the State Department."—*The Blade (Rep.)*, Toledo.

That he is a Protectionist at bottom is made plain by his use of the expression, "I prefer taxing foreign products," as if it were the foreigner that paid the Tariff-tax!—*The Sun (Dem.)*, Baltimore.

We trust that the disgusting exhibition which Hill made of himself will put the other wavering Democrats in the Senate to thinking, and awaken them to a sense of their duty. Of course nothing can be expected of Hill's echo, Murphy. But, if only the two peanut politicians who misrepresent New York in the Senate prove false, there will still be enough Democrats left in that body to save the country from a further infliction of McKinleyism, and the Democratic Party from disgrace.—*The Journal (Dem.)*, Atlanta.

The defeat of the Senate Bill would be the defeat of Mr. Cleveland, and would place the Democratic Party in such circumstances as would render it impossible for it to carry the next House of Representatives. Mr. Hill knows all this, but is willing to take the risk of defeat in 1894, to be followed, so he hopes, by success in 1896.—*The Dispatch (Dem.)*, Richmond.

Criticism points to continued antagonism, between the Hill and Cleveland factions and points, in all probability, to the withholding of Hill's vote from the Wilson Bill. Upon this point, to be sure, he is not clear and positive; it is not in his nature to be. He criticizes his party for not standing squarely on the revenue principle, and then he finds fault with it for the ruthless reduction of customs-revenue when business is depressed and the Government's income lessened. Just what he is going to do in these circumstances he is careful not to say.—*The Journal (Ind.)*, Providence.

The recreancy of Senator Hill and his associates has brought honest Democrats face to face with a serious situation. Wisdom, political integrity, allegiance to the Democratic faith, render it necessary that the apostates should separate from the party which they have betrayed and attempted to wreck. If they do not go out voluntarily and in peace they must be driven out.—*The Herald (Dem.)*, Chicago.

The speech of Senator Hill of New York on Monday is the most timely, courageous, and sagacious utterance made in the Senate chamber by any Democrat since Stephen A. Douglas' assault against the Kansas policy of President Buchanan in December, 1857.—*The Inquirer (Dem.)*, Cincinnati.

Senator Lodge's Speech.

To attack the present Protectionist policy on the basis of its outcome if carried to this logical extreme would be absurd, but no more absurd than was the attack which Senator Lodge made upon his political opponents. When he asked them why they did not adopt free trade, pure and simple, because it was inconsistent in them not to do so, they might have replied by asking Senator Lodge why, when he assisted in passing the McKinley Law, he did not insist upon having the duties so increased that every foreign commodity with which American products competed should have its importation prohibited.—*The Herald (Ind.)*, Boston.

The "fact" which he set out to establish was that wages in England had fallen from 12 to 15 per cent. in the last twenty years. This might seem a pretty difficult thing to prove for the ordinary politician, inasmuch as the investigations of Mr. Gifford and the statistics of the Board of Trade establish the conclusion that wages have risen in England from 30 to 50 per cent. in the past half-century. But this is no difficulty at all in the way of the scholarly politician. He summons as his only witness a Manchester bimetallist, says that his gloomy talk about the ruin of England is all the testimony we need, and then goes on to speak solemnly of how "we see that in fifty years Free Trade has proved utterly unable to maintain wages in England much less increase them." This is scholarship as she is politicked.—*The Evening Post (Ind.)*, New York.

IS TARIFF REVISION A NECESSITY?

IN *The American Journal of Politics*, New York, April, Lewis M. Neiffer argues that this country has outgrown the necessity of a Tariff for the protection of infant industries, that in fact we have no infant industries, excepting "McKinley's triplets, tin, linen, and billy-goats." He insists also on the historical fallacy embodied in the claims of the Republicans to be the Protectionist Party. Up to 1832, he says, no platform was adopted by any party. In that year, the Democratic Party nominated Andrew Jackson for the Presidency, and then and there, for the first time, declared that Protection to American industries is indispensable. The platform provided for an adequate protection, and not for a monopolistic Tariff. Then, he adds, our infant industries needed protection, but they no more need it now than James Corbett does. Our country, he exclaims, is no longer an infant; it is the giant of the Earth. He continues:

In 1840, the Democratic platform declared in substance what it did in 1892, "Resolved, That justice and sound policy forbid the Federal Government to foster one branch of industry to the detriment of another." The violation of this principle is to-day causing more hardship than all the Free-Trade of all history.

Henry Clay is the idol of Protectionists. Clay's Protective Tariff of 1842, when the industries were in their infancy and needed protection ranged from 28 to 36 per cent., while the Mills Bill of 1888, when the infants were forty-six years older, averaged 40 per cent., and yet the Republicans called the Mills Bill a Free-Trade measure. The McKinley Bill raised the Tariff to 50 per cent., the highest we have had. Surely if we have hard times now no one can say it is due to lack of Tariff. High Tariff will not make high wages, as any one can see. Supply and demand regulate the price of labor the same as any other commodity. It is not what a man earns which makes him rich, but what he can save. When reciprocal relations were established between the United States and Cuba, granulated sugar fell from twelve cents a pound to six cents. If Free-Trade works that way, there are plenty of workingmen who could stand a great deal more of it.

McKinley says the panic of 1857 was the result of the Low Tariff of 1846. The truth is, the Tariff of 1846 had nothing to do with it. It was the dread of impending civil war. If Low Tariff was the cause, will the Republicans please to tell us what was the cause of the panic of 1873? This panic was one of the greatest we ever knew in our history, at a time, too, when the Tariff was the highest that was ever imposed upon our people up to that time.

The McKinley Law is inequitable and unjust; and high protective duties have proved a failure in Europe as well as in America. They do not keep up wages, nor cheapen necessities of life, neither do they ensure steady employment to wage-earners. There is necessity for a change. The Wilson Bill is the proposed change. It aims mainly at reducing or abolishing the duty on raw materials and articles the production of which is monopolized, and the price controlled by Trusts.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

It Should be Amended.

Professor Goldwin Smith, in *The Nineteenth Century*, London, April, says:

There is apparently but one way of preventing the usurpation of uncontrolled power by the House of Commons, and saving Parliament from becoming, instead of a legislature, an organ of revolution. The Second Chamber must be reanimated and strengthened, made once more a co-ordinate branch of the Legislature, and fitted to become the bulwark and rallying-point of the national conservatism of the country. This can be done only by adapting the House of Lords to the spirit and necessities of the age.

As to the manner in which it is to be amended, wisdom says, whatever is done let it be effective, so as to preclude the necessity of further change. What is needed to give the desired security against revolution is nothing short of a co-ordinate branch of the Legislature, like the American Senate, with full power of initiation (saving in the case of Money Bills), of rejection and of amendment. But to sustain a co-ordinate branch of the Legislature and to enable it to exercise its powers with independence, its hold on public allegiance must be strong. Such a hold will not be gained by the House of Lords, in the present day, by petty change. Nominative Senates have been tried in the Colonies, and have decisively failed. There can be little doubt that, election being the order of the day, the great object of creating a powerful Second Chamber would be best served by placing the Chamber on an elective basis. Such a basis naturally presents itself in the County Council, which seems so far to have proved trustworthy, and which would probably attract better members if the privilege of electing to a branch of the Legislature were conferred on it. Of course, a Radical House of Commons would not willingly consent to any measure for the reform of the House of Lords, but supposing there was no hope of carrying through the Commons a Bill for the reorganization of

the House of Lords, could the House of Lords do nothing to reorganize itself? On two occasions it has divested itself of privileges which had become obsolete and obnoxious, namely, of the privilege of voting by proxy, and the privilege of voting on legal appeals: would it not be feasible for the Lords, by resolution, without prejudice to legal right or social privilege, to restrict the practice of sitting and voting to members having some qualification other than the obnoxious one of mere birth? It would entail self-sacrifice, but less than that involved in any of the measures hitherto proposed, and would turn the flank of the opposition in the House of Commons, to the mending of the House of Lords.

A gleam of popularity has shone upon the House of Lords since its vigorous rejection of the Home-Rule Bill, which may give rise to illusory hopes. It is but the ray shot by a setting sun. The French *noblesse* refused any concession when timely concession might have availed; then they flung up everything in one night.

A Dangerous Anachronism.

In the same magazine Thomas Burt, M.P., characterizes the House of Lords as a "dangerous anachronism." He stamps it as incapable of reforming itself, and says that, with all its great traditions, it has no hold on the affection, on the imagination, on the reverence of the people. As an abstract proposition, Mr. Burt admits that a House of trained experts who would bring knowledge, judgment, experience, and independent criticism to bear upon the measures submitted to them would probably be of great public advantage. But no one, he says, will pretend that the existing House of Lords—which is a mere party-machine—fulfils, or, without drastic reform, can be made to fulfil, that function. As a matter of practical politics, then, Mr. Burt insists that the Lords must be deprived of their veto. It must go as the sovereign's veto has gone. On that clear, distinct, definite issue, he recommends Liberals to concentrate their efforts.

T. Wemyss Reid, following in the same vein, characterizes the hereditary principle, when embodied in a legislative chamber, as a nauseous and ludicrous anachronism. Nevertheless, he says, here are many Radicals, including some who are taking a foremost part in the present movement against the House of Lords, who regard it as a very picturesque as well as antiquated institution, and who would no more wish to level it with the ground than the modern advocate of disestablishment would wish to pull down Westminster Abbey. But unfortunately for itself, he says, the House of Lords, at present, lies right athwart the path of the Nation; and the problem is, how to preserve it as a national relic without allowing it to remain where it now lies, throttling the traffic of the world's greatest highway. He too insists upon the abolition of the veto-power of the Second Chamber, of the suspensory as well as of the absolute veto. But he would leave the Peers the right of initiation. It is, he says, undeniable that many of their number are men who can render valuable service to the country if they choose, in the way of originating useful measures of legislative and social reform; and just as undeniable that the Second Chamber embodies administrative experience, parliamentary skill, and wide social and political knowledge. But the House of Commons will brook no rivalry. The issue now before the Nation is not the substitution of an elective for a hereditary Second Chamber; it is simply the establishment of the supremacy of the House of Commons, beyond dispute.

An Unfair Penalty on Peers.

In addition to the articles above summarized, *The Nineteenth Century* in its current number ventilates a grievance which some Peers labor under, and which the trio of writers to whom the article is credited, namely the Hon. St. John Brodrick, M.P., the Hon. George N. Curzon, M.P., and Lord Wolmer, M.P., characterize as "an unfair penalty on Peers." It goes without saying that men who enjoy a hereditary right to a seat in the House of Lords are very properly debarred from representing their countrymen at the same time in the House of Commons; it is nevertheless regarded as a grievance that any man, upon accession to a title, which he has not the option of refusing, is prohibited from ever afterward serving in the House of Commons, even although he be one of its leaders and ornaments.

A Peer may be a parish-councillor, a town-councillor, an alder-



THE KNIGHT AND THE JESTER.

"Sir Rosebery the Knight entered Gay on His Course,
Sing Waly, Waly, Oh!
Cried Labby, the Jester, 'This knight I'll unhorse!'
Sing Waly, Waly, Oh!" —Punch, London.

man, a mayor, or a lord-mayor; but he may not vote for a member of the House of Commons, he may not speak for or against either candidate; above all, he may not become either a candidate or a member himself.

But whatever may be said of the operation of the law as it affects English Peers, there can be no question that it is extravagantly unjust and absurd in its application to Scotland. The majority of the Scotch Peers (forty-eight) sit in the House of Lords



AN EARLY DISCORD.

Rosebery, the New Chef d'Orchestre.—"Now, Gentlemen, Gentlemen. All Together, Please!" —Fun, London.

as Peers of Great Britain; of the remainder, sixteen are elected by their Peers for the duration of Parliament, but apart from these there are twenty-one Scotch Peers who are not merely excluded by their fellow-Peers from sitting in the House of Lords, but who are equally unable to stand for the House of Commons. The writers would have all Peers free to choose whether they will sit in the Second Chamber, or present themselves as candidates for election to the House of Commons. One of the strongest arguments used by the writers is that the law as it stands is not only a hardship to those immediately concerned, but a restriction of the rights of the electors of the United Kingdom. A Bill to remove the legal disabilities complained of is appended to the article.

THE BERING-SEA BILL.

THE Bill to enforce the award of the Paris Arbitration Tribunal has passed the British House of Commons and is now before the Lords. It is expected to pass without difficulty. The Attorney-General, Sir Charles Russell, has explained the clause to which objection had been taken in the United States. The clause does not give immunity to vessels sailing before the Bill goes into effect, but if a ship sailed without notice of the passing of the Act and offended against its provisions, its master would not be liable, though the vessel is not exempted from seizure. The commanders of the cruisers patrolling Bering Sea would not be judges of the fact whether or not masters of seized vessels had received notice before sailing; the courts would decide the question.

In moving the second reading of the Bill in the House of Lords, the Earl of Kimberley stated that as soon as the legislation on the award should have been completed, a convention would be entered into between Great Britain and the United States for the settlement of claims for alleged illegal seizure of sealing-vessels. It will be remembered that the Paris Tribunal found that several searches and seizures were made under the authority of the United States Government, but it did not examine into the value

of such vessels or their contents, and no action was taken binding the United States to pay any compensation, that being left open to subsequent negotiations.

The Canadians claim that the vessels now at sea are pursuing a lawful industry and cannot be prevented from sealing without compensation. Sir Charles Tupper said: "The Canadian Government, in January last, in March, and even in April, pressed upon the British Government the manifest unfairness of applying, without due notice and actual warning, any legislation required by the Bering-Sea award to vessels which sailed before any enactment forbidding their pursuit or affecting their industry was adopted. It was shown that as early as January vessels had left port; that when they left, compliance with the regulations respecting licenses and hunters was impossible, even had they been in force."

No fault can be found with the energy with which the National Administration is preparing to police Bering Sea next Summer in co-operation with England, under the terms of the international agreement. Our fleet to watch the seal-pirates will be twice as numerous as the British fleet, and twice as powerful.—*The Journal, Boston.*

A large portion if not all of the Canadian fleet will be out of port before the Commons is likely to act, and these sealers can go where they please, and kill seals with immunity until some United States or British ship overhauls and warns them. There will be need enough of all the ships we can send North next Summer, with a full complement of Britishers to spread the notice and enforce the law. It is said that twelve of our ships are already under order for this service.—*The Republican, Springfield.*

There remains only the question whether sealers who have already left for the sealing-grounds, having received no formal notice of the ratification of the award, will be bound to observe the regulations and cease operations on the last day of next month, wherever they may happen to be. We gather from the short discussion at Ottawa that Sir John Thompson would answer this question in the negative. It would undoubtedly be answered in the negative by any person who had regard only to the rules of law and equity, but it is to be observed that the American authorities do not take that view.—*The Times, Victoria, Canada.*

Red tape and circumlocution have achieved a great success in keeping the question in so uncertain a state during the many months that have elapsed since the award was made. Pity the world, the seasons, and the seals could not be kept from moving while diplomatic exchanges were leisurely proceeding.—*The Witness, Montreal, Canada.*

Canadians can afford to regard with pride the part taken by their Government in the task of settling the Bering-Sea question. The influence of the statesmen at Ottawa was continuously on the side of facilitating the arbitration, while steadily keeping in view the rights of the citizens of this Dominion. Nor has Canada sought to throw any embarrassment whatever in the way of the regulations coming into force. The claims of our citizens, which have been practically and properly emphasized at all stages of the discussion, constitute a fact in the settlement coming within the recognized course of international law.—*The Empire, Toronto, Canada.*

JAPAN AND THE BERING-SEA TREATY.

THE *Japan Mail*, Yokohama, points out that Great Britain and the United States appear too certain of the co-operation of the Japanese Government:

In one of the notifications purporting to emanate from the State Department in Washington, reference is made to an alleged promise of co-operation by Japan in the work of protecting the seal-fisheries. This assertion, unaccompanied by explanations of any sort, is calculated to convey a totally erroneous impression. Whatever Mr. Gresham may think upon the subject—and, doubtless, his wish is father to the thought—there can be no warrant for the declaration that Japan has agreed to add her naval strength to the forces about to be employed in the Bering Sea. That she may eventually be persuaded to do so is possible, but the announcement that she has already given her consent is

certainly premature. Under existing circumstances, there is nothing to restrain ships which fly the Japanese flag from cruising at will in the waters forbidden to American and English sealers, and if the Imperial authorities could be induced to issue and enforce a prohibitory decree, it would obviously be to the advantage of Mr. Gresham's countrymen. But nations are not accustomed, nor are they expected, to render services of this magnitude gratuitously. Japan has interests of her own to consider, and although little has yet been done toward their development, she looks forward to a time when her northern islands may supply the material for a prosperous industry. The waters of Yezo and the Kurile chain are constantly liable to invasion by foreigners; and when she is requested to join in the labor of conserving the fisheries of other countries, she naturally regards herself as entitled to similar good offices at their hands. If the Powers now pledged to abide by the Paris regulations would make Japan an equal party in their agreement, and would execute a joint Convention by which each should be bound to uphold the rights of all, the cordial and earnest co-operation of this Government might safely be reckoned upon. But as matters stand, there appears to be no reason that Japan should incur trouble and expense solely for the benefit of her neighbors, nor can she fairly be asked to assist in checking the depredations from which they suffer unless they are disposed to contribute like assistance where she requires it.

The *Novoye Vremya*, St. Petersburg, in a lengthy article says that it is not desirable for Russia to renew the existing convention between Russia and England. By this agreement Russia is bound to limit her catch of seals on the Commander Islands to 30,000, while England is not limited to any number during the spring migration of seals from the Japanese coasts to the North. This restricts materially the legitimate catch in the Northern waters.

THE SILVER QUESTION.

THE German bimetalists blame the Government for its passive attitude at the monetary conferences of Paris and Brussels. Ex-Deputy Bamberger has submitted to the Imperial Currency Commission a pamphlet in which he seeks to demonstrate that the fluctuation and depression of the price of silver are not due to a scarcity of gold. Herr Neustadt, the Director of the State Bank of Baden, has proposed a plan of bimetalism in which he asks the establishment and retention of the 1 to 15½ ratio for the next ten years. With others, he thinks that America is strong enough financially and commercially to support bimetalism without the co-operation of England. Graf Posadowsky, Imperial Secretary of the Treasury, when addressing the Reichstag on this question, declared most emphatically that Germany cannot settle this question by herself. She must wait.

The *Celestial Empire*, Shanghai, says that the Government of India will kill the Indian industries by the proposed duty of 5 per cent. upon all imports, except gold and cotton goods. Had the Indian Government found courage to tax silver alone, says the paper, we could have sympathized with its action. But it is simply monstrous that Yorkshire woollens, Sheffield and Birmingham metals and machinery, and the thousand and one articles produced in every other manufacturing center should be thus handicapped in the Indian market, while one industry alone is protected by the free admission of its goods. The motive behind this legislation is apparent when we remember that this one industry is the sole one in which India is able to successfully compete with Manchester. This 5 per cent. duty is the thin edge of the wedge of Protection, and an ill-advised and fruitless attempt to artificially elevate the rupee so as to diminish the pressure of India's huge gold liabilities. If the great industry of Lancashire was certain to gain thereby, no one would complain very much except the people of India, and even though it is as the voice of the pelican in the wilderness, we would impress upon our home readers that, while they are thus allowing India and Indian industries to be throttled by the blindly selfish policy of the gold interest in Great Britain, they are directly encouraging the low wage millions, with the silver wealth of China and Japan, to embark upon an era of manufacturing enterprise which will transform the whole industrial map of the world and give to the East, despite all fiscal laws, what the West would fain keep at

the expense of the greater world whose interests are immutably bound up in silver. The Indian Government is rushing to its destruction. *Quos Deus vult perdere, prius dementat.*

The *Times*, Bangkok, Siam, exclaims that almost every nation has been smitten with blindness on this subject. The Brussels Conference has shown that apparently reasonable expectations often remain unrealized in monetary matters. The United States hoped that its proposal would be supported by the Latin Union, the largest holders of silver in the world, but it appeared that the States forming the Union were not inclined to join the Americans in any agreement for extending the employment of silver. These countries found an excuse in the attitude of Great Britain, Germany, and Austria. But whatever may be said about the results of the Brussels Monetary Conference, it has undoubtedly been the first step toward an understanding, and has thrown some light on one of the most difficult and complicated questions of this country. Since the time of the Conference, silver has fallen in price more than 30 per cent., and thus if the solution of the silver question was desirable in 1892, it is more so now, on account of the present monetary crisis.

The *Statesman*, Calcutta, concurs with most of its Asiatic contemporaries in their opinion that England is pursuing a short-sighted policy. The silver question and the proper financial policy for the Government of India is a standing topic in the English as it is in the Indian press. But the vast majority of Englishmen shun the subject as they would poison. Bimetalists and monometalists fight out their battle with fury, but ordinary persons shudder and pass by on the other side. Delightful faddists make brilliant but impracticable suggestions which no one but their fellow-faddists understands, and the very word "currency" is enough to frighten the peaceful inhabitant of these islands. Of course it is very flippant of the British public to care so little about a subject which vitally concerns the whole Indian Empire. But so it is. Nero fiddled while Rome was burning, and the British public refuse to heed the cry that the depreciation of silver, or the appreciation of gold, is threatening to ruin our Indian Empire.

The *Hindu*, Bombay, in reply to an invitation to join with the English papers in India in the agitation on the currency question, says that the Indians have no exchange question at all, and can afford to look calmly—even cheerfully—at the rupee vanishing even below the shilling-point. In the present exchange difficulties, the Government's only sure means is of obtaining that political salvation which the Indian politicians have worked to obtain through the National Congress. When things become worse, they invariably begin to mend; then will come the time for Indian riots, and Indian politicians to chuckle. England must come to the rescue, and must either bear a fair portion of Home Charges or put an end to the *régime* of Anglo-Indian officials, and inaugurate a rule of India for Indians. The remedy consists, not in closing the mints; not in levying import-duty on silver; not in introducing a gold standard; not in proclaiming minimum on Council Bills, but in diminishing Anglo-Indian domination and Home Charges. If these causes are removed, there will be no exchange question, no Indian poverty problem, and in England no question of unemployed strikes or trade-depression. Prosperity in India means prosperity in England and Greater Britain.

THE CURRENCY ISSUE.

The New Silver Bill.

MR. MEYER, of Louisiana, has introduced in the House of Representatives a Bill which is regarded as embodying the views of the Administration on silver. It authorizes the issue of 3 per cent. five-year bonds, in denominations of \$20 and multiples thereof, and the coinage into standard dollars of 42,160,245 ounces of the silver bullion now held in the Treasury. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to issue certificates on this coin and to receive such certificates on deposit from national banking-associations. The Secretary is authorized to sell the bonds provided for in the Bill at not less than par in coin, "and apply the proceeds thereof to the redemption of the ten-year 5 per cent. bonds now outstanding, or he may exchange the same for such ten-year 5 per cent. bonds, but in making such exchanges and redemptions the 5 per cent. bonds shall be received at the

Treasury at a price not less favorable to the Government than a 3 per cent. basis on the investment in said 5 per cent. bonds for the period they have to run from the date of such redemption or exchange."

What emergency can call for a bargain with an unsound financial majority by which a hobby, disastrous to the national currency, is to be gratified, merely for the privilege of issuing a low interest-bearing bond, which will not make a dollar's difference in the expenses of the Government? But one excuse can be offered for such a proposition, and that is the willingness of the President to improve his relations with the representatives of his party in Congress at the expense of the nation.—*The American (Rep.)*, Baltimore.

We do not yet know certainly whether this projected compromise will be acceptable to either side in Congress or not. Beyond a doubt, the President ought to be clothed with the power of selling bonds to keep up the credit of the Government if that credit can in that manner be maintained. It is only in the sense that he prefers the Meyer Bill to a worse one that he can be said to have consented to make it "an Administration measure." However, the votes of the Democrats on the question of passing the original Seigniorage Bill over the veto would not seem to indicate that any financial Bill could be pushed through Congress because it was an Administration measure.—*The Dispatch (Dem.)*, Richmond.

There could hardly be a more absurd plan of borrowing money than this union of bond-authorization with a Silver Inflation-Bill; but it really appears to embody such financial wisdom as the Administration possesses. It ought to have no chance whatever in Congress, for while most of the Democrats will oppose any issue of bonds, the Republicans ought to oppose the coinage and inflation of silver notes, but it will, in any case, give renewed impetus to the agitation for silver-coinage and for other forms of monetary debauchment.—*The Tribune (Rep.)*, New York.

THE COURTS AND LABOR-ORGANIZATION.

Judge Caldwell's Decision.

SOME time ago the Receiver of the Union Pacific Railroad reduced the wages of the railroad-employees without previous notice and regardless of a long-standing agreement between the company and the men that an opportunity to be heard should be given to the latter before attempting to enforce a reduction. Judge Dundy, of the United States District Court, sitting at Omaha, affirmed the right of the Receiver to disregard the agreement between the men and the company as to notice, and the employees thereupon appealed to Judge Caldwell of the United States Circuit Court. In the decision recently rendered, Judge Caldwell decides in favor of the employees, on the ground that they are as much in the service of the court as the Receiver, and that both ought to be heard by the court. Judge Caldwell asked whether a court of equity ought to change a rule that has been in force a long time and which private management could not rescind, and proceeded to say: "If, after a full hearing and consideration, I found that it was necessary, equitable, and just to reduce the scale of wages, I would give the employees ample time to determine whether they would accept or reject the new scale. If they rejected it, they would not be enjoined from quitting the service of the court, either singly or in a body. In other words, I would not enjoin them from striking, but if they made their election to strike, I would make it plain to them that they must not, after quitting the service of the court, interfere with the property or the operation of the road or the men employed to take their places. A United States court can very readily find the means to effectually protect the property in its possession and the persons in its employ. The Receivers were the first to break the contract between the court and its employees, but if the reverse had been the case, the court would not have directed or enjoined the men to continue in its service. Specific performance of a contract to render personal service cannot be enforced by injunction, by pains and penalties, or by any other means. The period of compulsory personal service, save as a punishment for crime, has passed in this country. In this country, it is not unlawful for employees to associate, consult, and confer together with a view to maintain or increase their wages by lawful and peaceful means, any more than it was unlawful for the Receivers to counsel and confer together for the purpose of reducing their wages. A corporation is organized capital; organized labor is organized capital. What is lawful for one to do is lawful for the other to do."

As soon as Judge Caldwell's decision was announced, the employees made an application to Judge Dundy to restore the former

rate of wages, and he granted the application, remarking that he had simply followed the precedent set by Judge Jenkins in the Northern Pacific case, where a schedule reducing wages was allowed to go into effect without any prior notice.

The judge bases his final decision apparently on the ground that the men were being paid no more than their due, whether the road paid or not. This makes a notable departure from the rule hitherto followed in such cases. It will at least serve the purpose of cutting from under the labor unions some of their grounds of criticism of the attitude of the United States courts toward labor. But, the character of the decision aside, Judge Caldwell has taken the sound and rather novel position that bankrupt railroads are really run by the United States courts and not wholly by the receivers who happen to be in charge.—*The Republican*, Springfield, Mass.

It is likely that the decision will go a long way toward preventing strikes, because agreements like that in force on the Union Pacific are made institutional and given a standing in equity, although they may not be legal contracts. The precedent is clearly established that the courts may properly be appealed to.—*The Times*, Denver.

Judge Caldwell's decision in the matter of the Union Pacific wages schedule is based on broad considerations of right as well as law, and should convince every workman in the land that labor need have no fear that capital can defeat justice in the courts of the United States. The courts are not for any class as against any other class, but are a bulwark to protect the equal rights of all.—*The Wisconsin*, Milwaukee.

The justice of this decision is almost axiomatic in its clearness, and it very well expresses the sentiment of a majority of the American public on the relations of labor and capital. Coupled with the judge's added recommendation that, so far as possible, all disputes of labor be settled by reference to courts or to arbitration rather than to strikes or violence, it gives voice to what most people of this country will be inclined to regard as the expression of wise counsel and substantial justice.—*The Record*, Chicago.

The court's decision, however, is not necessarily the end of the matter. Suppose that it decides that the Receivers' schedule is right, but the employees are still dissatisfied? Is there any way to prevent them from striking, merely because the road is in the hands of receivers, i.e., of the court, the Receivers being its officers and servants? Obviously not. The rights of American citizens are not abridged by the fact that a railway has fallen into pecuniary embarrassment. Whatever rights existed before, in respect of liberty of movement, exist afterward. If the right to combine for the purpose of keeping wages up to a certain point, or of raising them to a higher point, existed before and outside of the receivership, it exists in the same measure afterward.—*The Evening Post*, New York.

Judge Jenkins' Decision.

Judge Jenkins, of the United States Circuit Court, sitting at Milwaukee, denied the motion for a modification of his injunction restraining the employees of the Northern Pacific Railroad from striking. The case is very similar to that of the Union Pacific Road. Some time ago, the Receivers ordered a reduction in the scale of wages, and the employees threatened to strike. Thereupon, Judge Jenkins issued an order enjoining the officers of the organization of the employees from bringing about a strike, and the employees from striking. The officers' motion was to strike out so much of the order as enjoined the men "from combining and conspiring to quit, with or without notice, the service of the said Receivers, with the object and intent of crippling the property in their custody or embarrassing the operation of said railroad, and from quitting the service of the said Receivers, with or without notice, so as to cripple the property or prevent or hinder the operation of said railroad." Judge Jenkins consented to modify the language of one clause, which forbade the officers from influencing the action of the employees, but remained firm in maintaining the right of the court to enjoin the men from striking or combining to quit work with or without notice. The Judge said that he knew of no peaceful strike, and that no strike could be successful if unaccompanied by intimidation or violence.

The point of special interest will be found in his discussion of strikes in general from a legal and judicial point of view. After

referring to various definitions of a strike, he quoted that which had been proffered in the argument as recognized by the labor organizations of the country, viz., "a concerted cessation of or refusal to work until or unless certain conditions which obtain or are incident to the terms of the employment are changed," the employees knowing that others may be employed in their places and that they may not be returned to the service, and the employers having the option of acceding to the demands and returning the strikers to the service or of employing new men. This implies a cessation of labor, but not an abandonment of employment, which may result at the option of the employer, but it does not imply a "combination to extort or to oppress or to interfere with the business of the employer," except as injury may be incidental to the cessation of labor. This definition does not contain the elements of unlawfulness which the judge had previously set forth and denounced, but he says such a strike as it describes is "ideal and never existed in fact." He then gives his own definition of a strike in these words: "A combined effort among workmen to compel the master to the concession of a certain demand by preventing the conduct of his business until compliance with the demand." Concerted cessation from work is the least effective means to this end, the more effective means being "the intimidation of others from engaging in the service, the interference with and the disabling and destruction of property, and resort to actual force and violence when requisite to the accomplishment of the end." His opinion is significant for the boldness and fulness with which he deals with this question, and for that reason it will doubtless attract much attention, especially as a Congressional committee is already investigating his conduct in granting the original injunction in the Northern Pacific case.—*The Times, New York.*

Judge Jenkins took a shot at Judge Caldwell in deciding the motion to amend his own strike order. As the decision was very carefully prepared, it could hardly have been written after Judge Caldwell had been heard from, but Caldwell indicated pretty clearly some time ago what he would do, and Jenkins met him point by point. On the general principle that men have a right to quit work whenever they like the two judges do not differ. But Judge Jenkins modifies his general statements by arguing that the right is suspended when its exercise amounts to a conspiracy to injure the property of others and to ruin their business. He justifies his order on the ground that it is the peculiar province of equity, in such cases as the one under consideration where the injury would result not only in severe private but in great public wrong, to restrain the commission of the threatened acts. That is to say, if the judge is convinced in his own mind that illegal acts are contemplated in spite of protestations to the contrary, he must interfere to protect the property in his charge, even if he infringes, technically, on the right of men to leave their employment.—*The Journal, Chicago.*

It appears that, as far as the law is concerned, Judge Caldwell has the better of it. We may have what opinion we please of the ethics of Judge Jenkins' argument and statement of the institution. We may believe that it is most hurtful and wrong that a strike should ever occur among the employees of concerns that serve the public; since an innocent public may thus be made to bear the brunt of a battle for which it is in no way responsible. Judge Caldwell reached the heart of the matter when he said that a court cannot enforce the performance of a contract to render personal service.—*The Pioneer Press, St. Paul.*

MISTAKES ABOUT ABSTAINERS.

ARCHDEACON FARRAR.

IT has become the almost universal fashion to speak of total abstinence as a fanatical fad, and of those who practice it as "intemperate Pharisees." If in a brief paper I can show grounds for an arrest of judgment in this matter, and bring about a better understanding among those who are interested in the solution of one of the most terrible of our social problems, I shall render no mean service to a great cause. It is not my object to proselytize. I have reason to know that many have become abstainers for life in consequence of what I have said on various occasions;

but I do not think that in any single sermon or speech I have ever said that it is a *duty* for any one to adopt this course, except in cases where it is essential for self-preservation. I have never asserted anything so wrong and foolish as that it is a sin to drink wine, nor pronounced a syllable of condemnation against the so-called "moderate drinkers." But if it is foolish and wrong to denounce all use of fermented liquors as a sin, it is no less foolish and wrong to speak of total abstinence from them as a Manichaean condemnation of "a good creature of God." "A good creature of God," I have heard Sir Wilfred Lawson say, "of course it is! So is a tiger; but one does not want a tiger in one's bedroom." No modest abstainer would claim his abstinence as a virtue, or pharisaically pride himself upon it; but it is at least an equal absurdity to speak of the use of beer and wine as though the self-gratification involved in drinking them were a virtue which entitles the "moderate drinker" to look down upon his neighbor. Surely a sufficient number of men of pre-eminent goodness, learning, and wisdom in all ages and countries—from the days of Pythagoras down to those of John the Baptist and through all the Christian ages—have been more or less absolute abstainers, to prove that the practice can neither be injurious nor absurd. Some of the most eminent divines in both the English and the Roman Church have given their high approval to total abstinence. The late Cardinal Manning was not only a total abstainer, but he founded a great total-abstinence league, and founded it, as he himself told me, out of pity for the overwhelming wretchedness and degradation caused by drink among the poorest Irish Roman Catholics. Further, total abstinence has received the unqualified sanction and blessing of the present Pope, Leo XIII., one of the most high-minded and cultured Popes who ever occupied the chair of St. Peter. St. Thomas Aquinas, who expressly laid it down that no food or drink is unlawful in itself, no less expressly approves of special vows of abstinence, and speaks of them as a sort of self-dedication. Archbishop Walsh, too, states the matter with perfect accuracy when he says that "total abstinence is not imposed upon mankind in general by any law of God, nor is it imposed on all Christians by the vow of their baptism; yet, notwithstanding this, it is of obligation for many, and there are persons for whom it is a matter of strictest obligation." The question of total abstinence, then, is not one of abstract right or wrong; but one to be settled by the individual conscience in connection with individual circumstances.

To begin with, perhaps, the lowest argument: there are myriads of households in which total abstinence would greatly increase the chances of family happiness on the ground of economy alone. Many a respectable household has been brought to poverty by its wine-merchant's or brewer's bills. And as for the poor, it is perfectly appalling to think that (as I know by experience) in lairs of the utmost squalor, where the parents are always begging, and the children always starving, they manage to find money somehow to keep themselves muddled with twopenny ale. Socialist orators denounce with fury the luxuries of the rich, but the luxuries of the rich are innocence and harmlessness itself compared with the criminal madness of self-indulgence which makes so many hundreds of thousands of the poor destroy themselves, and plunge their wives and children into abject, irretrievable misery, because they will not—will not until, at last, they *cannot*—resist the tyranny of a brutal and self-created appetite. If there were no other and deeper grounds for temperance efforts, they would be amply justified by the immense prosperity which the working-classes might achieve for themselves if they would divert into the channels of useful trade the vast mass of wealth—amounting, according to some calculations, to £60,000,000 a year (in England)—which they spend on a needless stimulant. Apart from this, all the best medical evidence points to the conclusion that the effect of alcohol upon the nervous system is one of progressive paralysis. "Even in so-called moderate quantities," says Sir William Gull, "it leads to the degeneration of the tissue; it spoils the health; and it spoils the intellect."

Are total abstainers then so very imbecile if they attach some importance to evidence so emphatic, from such competent recognized authorities? Or, is it right to condemn the motives of those who become total abstainers in the hope and desire of influencing others whose very salvation may depend on being delivered from a terrible temptation?—*Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST, from The Contemporary Review, London, April.*

LETTERS AND ART.

A MARTYR OF LITERATURE.

CH. V. LANGLOIS.



LITERARY MEN often complain of their lot. They are not appreciated, their books do not sell, or, if they sell, the publishers claim all the proceeds. At the best, say these framers of paragraphs, their remuneration is out of all proportion to their labor. A brick-layer, a stonemason, and especially a plumber, make a larger income every twelve months with less toil. These complaints may or may not be well-founded, but the things complained of are trifles compared with what authors of former ages had to endure. It is vexatious, of course, to find that one's books will not sell, that the public remains obstinately blind to the merits of

what we fondly supposed was going to fill our pockets and render our name illustrious for ages. However disagreeable may be these disappointments, it is certainly some little compensation not to be shut up in prison, not to be put to the torture, and not to be burned at the stake. No author nowadays incurs such perils. He might perhaps tolerate some risk of such things in order to gain a notoriety which might make his books sell. The risk, however, to be relished, must be slight.

The perils to which we have alluded are precisely those to which authors of former ages were exposed. Not a few of them paid with their lives for having written books which were not relished by those in authority. They were martyrs for what is now considered one of the inalienable rights of man, the freedom of the Press.

Of these martyrs, the name of one has been preserved in the literary history of France, and she owes this preservation to her persecutors. Her name was Marguerite Porete. She was originally from Hainault in Flanders. She joined the sisterhood of the Beguines, a name of uncertain origin, but which, good etymologists think, gets its root from our Anglo-Saxon *beg*. The Beguines, founded at the end of the Twelfth Century, to instruct children and tend the sick, took no vows, and, although they live under one roof, did not lead a conventual life. The institution still exists in Belgium and the North of France, and so recently as 1849 a house of Beguines was founded at Castelnau-d'Aud.

Marguerite Porete comforted her enemies, if she had any, by writing a book. Every page of it is lost, and we are not even acquainted with its title. All we know of its contents is from a digest of the work made by some theologians of the University of Paris. It appears from this digest, written in fair Latin, in which language it would seem the book was composed, that it endeavored to expound views similar to those put forth by Madame Guyon, the famous mystic, three hundred years afterward. Any one who has read Madame Guyon's deliverances, with her exposition of quietism, passivity, and what not, will be surprised that any one should think they could do any harm, for, like the peace of God, they pass all human understanding. The poor woman herself, worked up to a condition of religious rapture, had no very clear idea of what she meant. The illustrious Fénelon defended her, much to the displeasure of other members of the hierarchy, especially Bossuet. When reproached for this course, the Archbishop of Cambrai declared that she had committed no fault, except that of not having explained herself with sufficient clearness. The worthy Archbishop, like many others at that time, imagined that he understood what she meant to say. The fact is, however, that no clear explanation was possible of the views of one whose heart was right enough, but whose head was hopelessly muddled.

As in the days of Fénelon, so in the time of Marguerite Porete, there were people who imagined they understood what she meant to say. One of these people was Gui II., Archbishop of Cambrai (1296-1305), the same See to which Fénelon was appointed almost exactly four hundred years after (1695). Archbishop

Gui had a copy of Marguerite Porete's book burnt publicly in the Great Place of Valenciennes. She left that city and, after sojourning in various places, arrived in 1308 at Paris, where she fell into the clutches of the chief inquisitor, who, claiming that he understood the views endeavored to be expounded by Marguerite, and asserting that those views were heretical, put her in prison.

To add to her misfortunes she found a friend of the kind from which every one has need to pray to be delivered. One Guiart of Cresonsacq, in the diocese of Beauvais, declared that he was the Angel of that Philadelphia, which is one of the seven cities of Asia mentioned in Revelations, and that he had been sent by God to comfort His own. Thereupon he adopted a special costume which he wore everywhere. This crack-brained fellow was brought before the Inquisition, where he damaged Marguerite immensely by defending her, since it was asserted that his mental condition was the direct result of her teachings.

She lingered in prison a good while, however, because the Inquisition was busy with the infamous proceedings against the Templars, one of the atrocious crimes of the reign of Philip the Fair. At last, however, they found time to attend to Marguerite Porete, and for the alleged heresy of her book, on the 31st day of May, 1310, near the feast of Pentecost, she was, in a public place of Paris, burned at the stake. As for Guiart, he got off by publicly abjuring all his errors, and was only condemned to imprisonment for life.—*Revue Historique, Paris, April. Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

MARIE VON EBNER-ESCHENBACH.

"GERMANY'S foremost writer" is the designation given to Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach by Marie von Bunsen in *Die Frau*, Berlin, from which our sketch is taken. She is certainly not placed on this high pedestal by popular acclaim; but, among the upper ten thousand of Germany's aristocracy of culture, it is claimed for the subject of our sketch that she stands at the head of all living story-tellers of all lands. She is highly honored even in France, so much so that, in a recent French discourse on Germany's artistic status, Marie von Ebner-



MARIE V. EBNER-ESCHENBACH.

Eschenbach was the only one of our living romance-writers deemed worthy of mention. In spite of these great tributes to her merit, she hardly ranks as a popular writer in Germany. Not one of her novels has reached its sixth edition, and hundred and thousands of educated persons devour her stories, as they would any other "nice" or "sensational" novel, without any appreciation of their literary excellence. This is, perhaps, be-

cause her writings are so unpretentious. They are for the most part slight sketches from life; but the treatment displays the master-hand, the appreciative eye. Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach knows the human heart with a thoroughness equalled by few. She depicts externals with a few fine, often humorous strokes; but the hand is sure, the stroke deep, and the personality so strongly marked as to render each character a psychological study. Her characters never remind one of the characters in other stories, they remind one involuntarily of some half-forgotten acquaintance whom one has not seen for a long time. Her style is good, very good; it would be absurd to reproach her with wanting the hypnotizing, melodious cadence of a Nietzsche! The composition is almost without exception concise and terse; in "Er lässt die Hand küssen" a profound terrible tragedy unfolds itself in thirty pages, and shorter still is her ever-memorable biography of the ever-memorable dog "Krambambuli." "Dorf- und Schloss-Geschichten" (Tales of Castle and Village) is the title of some of her volumes, and might indeed well be the title of them all. She depicts the world as she has known it from childhood, and although she has neither traveled much, nor moved in very diversified circles, she is at least at home in cottage and hall, and finds here the most varied characters, and material for the most intricate problems of life.

Marie von Ebner's name and occupation have been given to the world; but her life is spent in dignified seclusion. It is, hence, hardly good taste to dwell much on her personality. The impression she makes on one is difficult to describe, for while one cannot but feel her intellectual power, the strongest impression conveyed by her kindly manner is a rare, touching modesty. She was born at Castle Zdislavice in Moravia, in 1830. Her father was Graf Dubsky, her mother of Saxon family, born Freiin von Vockel. She received a very careful education from governesses at home, and extended it very widely by her own restless energy. At sixteen years of age she determined to reform the German theater, and shortly afterward married a cousin. True to her resolve she wrote several dramas which were placed on the stage, and secured both attention and criticism. Her first stories, which appeared in the Seventies, showed her that she had now opened up the field in which her best talents lay concealed. Her husband, a captain in the corps of engineers, was professor of natural sciences at the Engineer-Academy, Vienna, and is now Fieldmarshal Lieut. a. D. They spend the Winter in Vienna in a retired quarter near the St. Stephen's Church. The Summer she spends with her brother in the old ancestral halls, amid the scenes and people she has so often depicted. There too she finds compensation for her own want of children in the society of a large circle of nephews and nieces, a loving and beloved aunt and great-aunt.—*Translated and Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

ZOLA'S DEFENSE OF HIMSELF.

AT his house in Paris, Emile Zola lately submitted to an interview. He gives this account of his early life and his object in writing some of his works:

I was born at Paris on the 2d of April, 1840. My parents resided at Aix in Provence, but happened at the time of my birth to be visiting Paris, whither my father had to come sometimes on business connected with the canal which was afterward constructed, and which is still known at Aix as the "Zola Canal." By this canal, the town is supplied with drinking-water. My father was an Italian; we have relatives of my name in Venice to this day. He died when I was six years old, leaving my mother and myself in very bad circumstances. My mother's father and mother, however, came to live with us, and through them I was at the College of Aix from the age of twelve to eighteen. Then my mother and I went to Paris, and there I was placed at the Lycée Louis-le-Grand, where I remained two years, devoting myself to the study of French literature. At my examination for the degree of bachelor, I was plucked because I could not give the date of the death of Charlemagne. I think I mentioned a date somewhere in the reign of Francis the First. That was in November, 1859, when I was about twenty years old.

After leaving school, I got a clerkship where I was paid sixty francs a month. The work was such utter drudgery and the prospect of improvement so entirely negative, that after two months of slavery I threw up the place, and for eighteen months led a life of the most miserable Bohemianism. During that time, on the days when I could add to my pennyworth of bread a pennyworth of cheese, or a cup of black coffee, I considered myself rolling in luxury. At the beginning of the year 1862, through a letter of introduction, I got a little place in the publishing house of Hachette, and soon afterward my time of downright misery ended. As late as 1867, when I was twenty-seven years old, by working very hard and turning my pen to all and



Emile Zola

every use, I managed to earn about three hundred francs (\$60) a month.

I began the Rougon-Macquart series in 1868. I had long entertained the desire to imitate Balzac in the execution of a gigantic series of books like his "Human Comedy." The only thing that was lacking was an assured income on which to live while working. This income was guaranteed by an agreement which I made with the publisher Lacroix, who offered me five hundred francs a month for two years. I was to supply him with two novels a year, and the five hundred francs a month were to be deducted from the proceeds of the sale of the novel, in which I had a share. I spent several months in reading up the question of heredity or atavism, because I had determined an exposition of the theory of atavistic influence. Doctor Lucas's work on "The Law of Natural Heredity," was particularly useful to me. The subject tempted me because it was a scientific one, and because nobody could say that I was in the wrong in my conclusions, since nobody knows anything about it. My theory was

that when men know how to master this influence of atavism, they will be what they are not now, the masters of the destiny of the human race.

I have always been very methodical. I do not believe in overwork, but I am a firm believer in regular work. At my house at Medan, in my study, I have had carved in letters of gold over my mantelpiece, the words: *Nulla dies sine linea*; and this rule I have stuck to conscientiously. My faith is that hard work, that is to say, regular work, is the first essential in the production of a book. I am no impressionist and I do not believe in work rapidly dashed off. The creation of a book requires much trouble and exacts great pains. When I start a book, I have never any idea as to its plot. At most, I have only a general idea of the subject, and the first thing that I do is to prepare a sketch or outline of the story. This I do pen in hand, because ideas come to me only when I am writing. I cannot think while sitting idle.

Day after day, for years, I have regularly devoted three to four hours of my mornings to my task on the Rougon-Macquart series. From four to six pages of manuscript of the size of a sheet of foolscap cut in half is my average daily production. I write slowly and with some difficulty, and always think out my sentences so carefully that there are few if any corrections in my manuscript. I should say that fifteen hundred words is my daily output. It is not much, but consider what that amounts to at the end of the year. When I have done what I consider a fair stint, I throw down my pen, even if I am in the middle of a sentence. So day after day I have added to my work, and you can see what a number of volumes have resulted from this method, slow and sure.—*McClure's Magazine, New York, April. Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

AN ENGLISH VIEW OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

THE school-system of the State of New York is entitled to recognition among national systems of education. Its worth has been tested by more than a century of trial, and in no point has it shown conspicuous weakness. The ever-increasing demands of a new State, and of a society composed of the most heterogeneous elements, would have undone a less efficient institution. There was, however, nothing haphazard in the work of the founders of the young Republic. The political exigencies of the decade 1780-90 brought to the service of the State men thoroughly devoted to her welfare. Who shall say that the times were not such as to call forth the best thought of the best men? Provision for the higher education of youth was among the first acts of the State Legislature. Within six months after the end of the war, a law was passed creating the University of the State of New York; three years later, in 1787, this law was revised and amended, and in its extended form it remained the code for secondary schools and colleges till 1889.

No one acquainted with the constitutional history of the United States will make the mistake of thinking that its State and National institutions were delivered to a thankful people by specialty theorists, or, on the other hand, that the leaders imposed upon the country at large their own peculiar ideas. The people of the United States were too nearly English for that. Every move was the result of careful study after prolonged discussion. Herein lay the strength of the statesmen of the infant Republic: they learned through compromise on compromise that the highest good of all is not inconsistent with individual rights. The age, too, was one that proved all things. The forces which quickened the intellectual life of Europe and culminated in the French Revolution permeated the body politic on the American side of the ocean and found expression in every public act. The founding in New York of a system of education which should extend to the entire State, and be controlled by the State, in the interests of the State, was but a single phase of the wider movement. From New York the influence has gone forth to other States of the Union; even Frenchmen acknowledge their debt to New York for the ideal of their great national University.

The University and the Department of Public Instruction represent two distinct co-ordinate systems for public education

within the State. Each is independent of the other, but both alike are dependent upon the Legislature for their authority, and to the Legislature both make annual reports. The efficiency of the Department of Public Instruction is largely dependent upon its chief, and when partisanship enters into the election of this officer, as too often happens, the best interests of the schools are proportionately jeopardized. This element of instability is to be regretted; but from a practical point of view the Department was never better conducted, we are told, than under the present administration and its immediate predecessor. No breath of suspicion has ever fallen on the Regents of the University. Their office is one of high honor, and its members have always ranked among the State's most eminent citizens. Governor Clinton, John Jay, and Alexander Hamilton were on the original Board; and some of the Regents of the present day are highly respected. If the character of an institution is determined by the men who compose it, equally true is it that the best institutions are predisposed to right influences. The University of the State of New York is fortunate in the personality of its governors, in what it has accomplished, and in its wealth.

The University is in form a private corporation, intrusted by the Legislature with the control of all matters pertaining to secondary and higher education. Englishmen will naturally seek an analogy in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, as they were before their reconstruction. There is a striking similarity in the corporate form of the two systems, but in essentials a wide difference exists. The form, not the content, is of English origin. The English university was a feudal corporation with judicial and legislative rights, complete in itself; the University of New York is a corporation maintained by the Legislature, and accountable to the Legislature for the proper performance of its duties. It is, in fact, a department of the State Government, of which the permanence and immunity from partisan control are secured by charter.

The power granted to the Regents for the incorporation of schools and colleges implies the ability to dissolve such corporations when they no longer serve the purposes of their foundation. Under a "University Law of 1892," the embodiment of the best educational thought of New York for a century, good service has been done in closing up discreditable and fraudulent institutions; these are especially of a quasi-professional type, calculated to do much harm in legal and medical circles.

The University is not a teaching body, although it is authorized "to maintain lectures connected with the higher education." In the unusual prominence given to libraries in the new University Law is seen the recognition of educational agencies other than schools, and on a plane with them. In no department is the beneficent action of the University more evident than in the medical. A physician licensed in other States or in foreign countries must satisfy the Regents of the worth of his credentials before he can practise in the State of New York.

The worth of the school system of New York has already been proclaimed to Europe. The international jury of the World's Fair, held in Paris in 1889, awarded to New York the *grand prix* "in recognition of the great merit of the peculiar system which federates all institutions of higher education into a single University of the State."—*The Journal of Education, London. Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

STUDENTS IN GERMAN UNIVERSITIES.

THE words of admonition recently uttered by Professor Binz* in regard to the drinking-habits of students in German universities have provoked much comment in Germany and elsewhere. The observations of Professor Binz have been supplemented by Alexander Grieve, A.M., in *The People's Friend*, Dundee, Scotland. He testifies as an eye-witness, having studied at more than one German university, in regard to the "Students of the Corps in Germany." In what he says, the *Akademische Monatshefte* sees a new proof "of the little trouble taken by foreigners sojourning in Germany to acquire a just notion of German manners and usages." Whatever the fact

* Vide THE LITERARY DIGEST for March 29, p. 522.

may be, this is the testimony of Mr. Grieve, which deserves careful consideration by fathers and guardians in Great Britain and the United States:

"The object of the *Corps* is not the mutual elevation of the intelligence and moral sense; it is solely drinking and duelling. A German student has won his spurs when he knows how to drink and to fight." Then follows this picturesque description of a session of the *Kneipe*: "In a pot house, selected in advance, the students sit around a table; at the upper end, the president; at the lower end, two vice-presidents. The ceremonies begin with a song in chorus, accompanied by an orchestra; then follows a pause for drinking and smoking. In the course of the evening, five or six kegs of beer are tapped and emptied. The average consumption of each student present is twelve glasses. Some students easily double that number. In several universities there are authentic records that seventy glasses of beer have been swallowed on some of these occasions by a single student. The intervals between the drinks are filled with songs and a speech or two. When the hurly-burly becomes too great, the president thunders out the traditional *Silentium*. The tumult, however, soon begins, and, from all sides is heard *Prosit! prosit!* the usual preamble of a German toast. The official session of the *Kneipe* terminates at midnight, and then every student is at liberty to retire; but more than one has already sought and found a suitable place for repose in the corridor of the pothouse. Many continue to drink until two or three o'clock in the morning; after which, naturally, these persevering drinkers are hopelessly drunk."

We will not follow Mr. Grieve in his description of the students' duels; these are too well known. Neither will we endorse his rather exaggerated conclusion that "German science and learning is in no way indebted for its legitimate renown to the students of the *Corps*," since we can recall more than a hundred students of that category who at present fill chairs in the universities and several of them are numbered among the highest scientific authorities. Only it is certain that these professors and scientific men have become such *in spite of* the manners of the *Corps*, and not by reason of such manners; and that the traditions of these associations of students are more hurtful to studies and to morality than worthy of consideration or indulgence. Moreover, Mr. Grieve takes care to note that, among the members of the *Corps*, there are many who strive to bring about a reaction "against the detestable habits of their ancestors, and especially against the duel; but they are obliged to act with discretion and tact, in order not to be persecuted by the noisy and unintelligent who, there as elsewhere, do their work of intimidation and prevent good sense from having the last word."—*Revue Internationale de l'Enseignement, Paris, March. Translated and Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE.

THOMAS ACHELIS.

IT appears to be a law of historical development that a period of the highest spiritual evolution is everywhere and always followed by a stagnation and diseased moral condition, in which previous achievements are discounted and the energy which gave birth to them replaced by pessimistic inaction. Just such a condition of things was reflected in all the literature of the closing years of the last century. It was a period of morbid discontent, of perverted sentimentalism, of artistically nurtured antagonism to the prevailing view of life, of yearning for a Redeemer who should lead the multitude to the dawning of a brighter and a fuller day. Napoleon and the French Revolution came in response to the demand. Europe had its surfeit of ideals, and re-entered on its career of world-progress with renewed energy. The age of philosophy was replaced by the age of science, and, now, in the midst of all the wondrous achievements of material science and of ever-broadening glimpses into the great system of cosmic life, we behold everywhere signs of a returning weariness of civilization, a yearning for an all-powerful savior who shall emancipate us from the innumerable misery of our Philistine existence, and transfer us, with the whole machinery of our material civilization, to the Islands of the Blest. Such a prophet, not perhaps for a great multitude, but nevertheless for a very

energetic, combative community, has arisen in the person of the fascinating thinker, Friedrich Nietzsche. In him we are able to obtain a very instructive, if not always refreshing, glimpse of the tendencies which dominate the spiritual life of the age.

Friedrich Nietzsche, son of a Naumburg pastor, was born on October 15, 1844, in Röcken, a place near Lützen. Losing his



FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE.

father early, the delicate but promising boy grew up in the care of his mother and sister. On the recommendation of the well-known philologist Ritschl, in Leipzig, he received a call to Basel in his twenty-fourth year, although he had not yet passed his examination for a degree. Here amid a circle of old acquaintance he felt the impulse of a stirring intellectual activity. In his well-attended lectures, he displayed a preference for Greek literature, Greek tragedy, the dawn of Greek philosophy, pre-Platonic philosophy, and such like subjects.

Nietzsche very early developed a tendency to scepticism and cynicism, and along with it there developed unconsciously a worship of his individual self, a hero-mania. This excessive self-exaltation, which goes hand in hand with a corresponding depreciation of other personalities, can be properly understood only in a pathological perspective. This enigmatical man, as is said by all who know him, was a sensitive, retiring, almost bashful nature, thoroughly aristocratic in manner and almost fastidious as to his dress. Wherever he showed himself he became, unsought, the center of a brilliant society whose members all yielded to the magic of his fascinating personality. Every heart beat in response to him, because in the rushing energy of his fiery eloquence all the contradictions with which men vex themselves melted away, allowing them to obtain a glimpse of a new Eden beyond. To Nietzsche, as to David in the Cave of Adullam, there went out all who were discontented with the existing order—Socialists, Anarchists, and the men who wanted a leader—and in the magic of his fiery eloquence, every one found something to suit himself, some new assertion which he was able to accept as a revelation. There is no morality. Science must be studied with the artist's eye! Nothing is true and everything is permissible! The cardinal problem of his persistent investigation, the origin of the moral, is touched on in his earliest writings, and is treated in every possible variation throughout the whole of his works. He has no faith in the "goodness" of humanity.

And yet Nietzsche is not a man to be dismissed as an empty charlatan. He is, on the contrary, a thinker who should be taken very much in earnest, as a culture-phenomenon of important rank. He is the apostle of complete moral and spiritual anarchy. —*Westermann's Monats-Hefte, Brunswick, April. Translated and Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

LITERARY NOTES.

THE senior member of the firm of R. & R. Clark, of Edinburgh, said, not long ago, that just after Tennyson's death they kept for three weeks twenty-six printing machines turning out the Laureate's works. There was an unprecedented demand for them, but they were out of print for only two hours. Mr. Clark also said that for the past thirty years the firm has had thirty hands uninterruptedly engaged in producing Walter Scott's works. This would appear to prove that readers have not outgrown Scott, at least.

VARIOUS amusing stories concerning the efforts of authors to "boom" their own works are told by a certain librarian in London. "The least enterprising step in that direction," he says, "is for an author personally to suggest to his or her friends the desirability of asking early and often at the libraries for the volume. It is a step further to have a post-card, we'll call it, printed, drawing the attention of friends and acquaintances to the book as 'the novel of the day.' If I had time to think, I could tell you of many strange things in the matter of authors endeavoring to boom their books which have come under my own notice. As it is, two or three instances occur to me. A man wrote a book—he was a subscriber to the library—and applied for his own book. We explained that we had not got a copy, and that his was the only application for it. Then he asked if we would have a copy if he would send it to us. Eventually we said, 'Yes,' and the book duly turned up. Then followed in time six calls for the book, at six different stalls of ours throughout the country. I became curious, and traced up the calls, and there—it was the author every time! Along with the discovery came an indignant letter from him that on each occasion he had been supplied with the same copy of the book—his own copy. Well, no one else had asked for it, you see.

"The case of another author who had paid a twelve-shilling subscription in order to ask for his own book is briefer. Since we got the subscription we lost only six shillings, whereas the whole eighteen shillings paid for the book would otherwise have been lost. The third instance which I had in my mind was of a lady who wrote from an important place, saying there was a difficulty in getting from our library a particular new book. Why did we not have more copies? I sent the letter to the clerk of the book-stall where the lady had applied, and he identified it. The lady—and her name is very well known—was the writer of the book."

WHEN Mr. R. L. Stevenson's book, "Travels with a Donkey," was on the press, some delay in bringing it out caused him to write this characteristic note to his publishers:

DEAR SIR: What has become of me and my donkey? She was never a fast traveler, but she has taken longer to come through Hanover Street than to cross the Gerandau. There must be carrots in your office. Please see to it and let me hear. Yours truly,

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON.

MR. FAUX, who has had forty years' experience in English libraries, puts down the ordinary life of a popular novel as nine months, although "Middlemarch" traveled about for a year and a half before it ceased to be called for regularly. The present neurotic fiction is mainly read by women.

VERGA, the Italian novelist, whose tale furnished the libretto for Mascagni's "Cavalleria Rusticana," has received nearly 250,000 lire in royalties. He was formerly opposed to writing libretti; he now has three on hand.

MR. HERBERT SPENCER's most recent publication is an interesting note prefacing an edition of his father's book on "Lucid Shorthand"—a work left in MS. by the elder Spencer and brought out after long delay by his son—"his life," as he says, "having become precarious." There is a suggestion that fully fifty years ago Mr. Robert Spencer was in favor of spelling reform, for in the course of some comments upon the "absurdities and contradictions" of our orthography he says, "The mere fact that there exists such a thing as a pronouncing dictionary carries with it a full condemnation of our system of written language."

AUSTRALIAN authors and printers are complaining strongly against the competition of American stereotype-plate matter. American syndicate literary matter of all kinds is unloaded in this manner on Australian readers, and at a nominal price, to the great detriment of local talent and skill. The Customs Department was asked to interfere to protect native industry, but found that the only head under which the plate matter could be taxed was that of "manufactured metal." The American invoiced price is only 25 cents a plate, which makes the duty collectable infinitesimal, and of no value whatever as a protection.

PARIS has a new periodical entitled *Journal for Mothers-in-Law*. The editor says that his object is to defend the social interests of mothers-in-law, and to correct their faults as far as possible by means of friendly criticism.

PRINCESS STEPHANIE, of Austria, has just written a novel.

STAFFORD A. BROOKE's work: "Tennyson; his Art and Relation to Modern Life," is completed, and will be published by Messrs. Isbister about the middle of April. Besides a critical survey of the principal poems, the volume deals with Tennyson's faculty as an artist, his relation to Christianity and to social politics, his attitude toward nature (in which he differed from the great poets of the century), and his speculative theology.

The Critic, New York, hears that a copy, in excellent condition, of Poe's "Tamerlane" (1827), a very rare book, has recently been discovered, and is held at \$1,625. It is said to have been picked up in a second-hand bookstore in Boston sixty years ago, and to have remained in the possession of the purchaser ever since. Another copy was sold privately a year or two ago for \$2,500.

ART NOTES.

A "MERRY-MAKING" scene by Jan Steen, but signed J. Stein, was sold at Christie's, London, a few weeks ago—perhaps to go to Queen Victoria, who is a great collector of this Dutchman's work. The canvas is about 5 feet by 4, and shows a gay party in an arbor. It was bought by a noted dealer for \$2,837.50. Another Steen, "Philistines Making Sport of Samson," went to a collector for \$1,207.50. On the other hand, a so-called Titian, "Ariadne in Naxos," which was sold in 1810 for \$7,500, brought only \$500. A "Ferryboat," by Jan Van Goyen, signed and dated 1647, went for \$775, and a half-length of a man, with large felt hat and broad white collar, by Franz Hals, was bought by a dealer for \$1,550; a cavalier smoking in an arbor, with a lady in red dress, who offers him wine, by Pieter de Hooghe, went for \$500. Sedelmeyer bought a Salomon Ruysdael, "Mouth of the Meuse," for \$375, and another dealer got an old woman, by Gerbrandt Van den Eeckhout, for \$260. Some of these prices are so low that one imagines they must be very small and inferior examples, or that collectors have been caught napping, or that some art-dealers are buying very questionable goods. It will be well for American buyers to keep a sharp lookout. Very often such goods are shipped direct to New York, and Christie's name and the name of a reputable firm are used to cover a multitude of frauds. In the same sale was a three-quarter-length portrait of a Bishop of Ghent, by Rubens, going for \$1,000, and a girl in rich dress, with pearl necklace and pearls in her hair, described as a Rembrandt, which went for \$787.50.

THE Royal Scottish Society of Painters in Water-Colors at their annual meeting decided that woman members shall in the future be allowed to attend the meetings of the Society, and be eligible for election as office-bearers. This is the first attempt of any art body in the Kingdom to place the women members on an equal footing with those of the other sex.

THE President of France has directed Messrs. Carolus Duran and Emile Blémont to form a committee for the erection of a statue to Watteau.

THE recent elections of new Associates of the English Royal Academy seem to forecast a new era in that venerable institution; that they have for once been successful in pleasing every group in the artistic world, Tory and Radical alike, is proved by the outburst of satisfaction, even of enthusiasm with which those elections have been greeted.

MUSICAL NOTES.

M. MASSENET, composer of "Werther," was recently the subject of an amusing experience. One of his operas was performed in Italy, and the usual number of laurel wreaths was handed over the footlights. Laurel wreaths bear an import duty in France, but the Custom House officials manifestly wanted to show the French composer a politeness, and the things duly arrived at his house in Paris bearing a large Government label, "Plantes Médicinales."

THE charter of the new University of Wales provides that degrees in music may be conferred upon women. This is distinctly a new departure, for, with the exception of the Princess of Wales, who is an honorary Mus. Doc. of the Royal University of Ireland, ladies have very absurdly, and not less unjustly, hitherto been debarred from musical degrees. Nor need the Welsh, as has been whimsically suggested, have recourse to that awful expression "Spinster in Music." Bachelor is not only a recognized term in university life, but it was formerly applied to an unmarried woman. For example, in Ben Jonson's "Magnetick Lady" we find "He would keep you a bachelor still . . . without a husband."

DVORAK's new symphony, which was announced for first performance in England, has been postponed indefinitely. Much had been written in advance of it, chiefly in consequence of the Bohemian composer's alleged clever employment of negro melodies.

ANTON RUBINSTEIN does not believe in concert compositions of a sacred character. He is quoted as saying: "The oratorio is a form of art against which I have always been inclined to protest. The best-known master-works of this kind have always (not in their study, but in the hearing of performances) left me cold; and, indeed, have often made an unpleasant impression on me. The stiffness of the forms, alike the musical and especially the poetic, have seemed to me in complete contradiction to the high dramatic nature of the matter. When I hear and see the sublime characters of the Old and New Testament sung by gentlemen in black frocks, with white neckties and yellow gloves, and a note-book before their faces, or by the ladies in the most modern, often the most extravagant, toilet, I am so disturbed by it that I never have any pure enjoyment."

MASSENET has finished his new one-act opera "La Navarraise," which he wrote expressly for Mlle. Calvé and which will be produced at Covent Garden this season. The scene is laid in the last Carlist war, and the plot develops a deed of great heroism by a woman.

AN iconoclast of a very destructive type has just appeared in the person of an Englishman, Mr. Robert Charles Hope. Of bottom facts in the history of music, two have for centuries been accepted as gospel truth. One of these facts is that plain-song, commonly called the Gregorian Chant, was the invention of Saint Gregory the Great in the Sixth Century; the other that the use of the syllables *ut, re, mi*, and so on is due to Guido of Arezzo, an Italian monk of the Eleventh Century. Now appears Mr. Hope, who, in a book on "Medieval Music," ruthlessly demolishes these two superstitions, proving that Saint Gregory cared not a fig for music, there being in his voluminous correspondence, including no less than eight hundred letters, "not a single line, allusion, or hint of any kind respecting either the chant of the church or of an antiphony." In the same way the claims of Guido to have introduced the *ut, re, mi*, etc., are thoroughly disposed of, and poor Guido is left without a leg—or perhaps we may be allowed to say a staff—to stand on.

BOOKS.

FROM THE NIGER TO THE GULF OF GUINEA.



WE are told in the introduction to Captain Binger's book,* that the cartographers, to satisfy the demand of the great public, have filled the country, between the two arms of the Niger and the Gulf of Guinea, with a great number of rivers, mountains, and peoples, all of which exist only in imagination and legendary traditions. The Captain had always suspected the charts, and nourished the hope of being some day able to explore the country, but was unable to raise the necessary funds. In 1886, however, with the influence of General Faidherbe, for many years Governor of Senegal, and under whom Captain Binger had served as Adjutant, he got the commission from M. Flourens, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and M. de la Porte, Secretary for the Colonies, to explore the country he wished so much to visit.



FIG. 1.—SIKASSO.

The captain, the only white man in the troop, set out upon his journey and started with a train, as small as possible, from Bammako in French Soudan. The friendly chiefs on the other side of the Niger were advised by letter from the Governor of French Soudan, that Captain Binger traveled on a peaceful errand, mainly to learn what products the countries of Kong and Mossi could exchange with the French. Ostensibly, the explorer went on a peaceful mission, but one cannot doubt that he and the home Government had other objects in view. He had



FIG. 2.—MOSQUE AT KONG.

two routes to choose from: one was the Senegal-Niger-Bammako and the other the Gulf. He chose the former because he did not wish to apprise the English of his intentions. He also betrays himself at the end of his work, where he points out that the English ought to be driven out of the Gulf together with the small Portuguese colony on the West coast. He rightly says that

* "Du Niger au Golfe de Guinée par le pays de Kong et le Mossi," par le Capitaine Louis Gustave Binger (1887-89). Ouvrage contenant une carte d'ensemble, de nombreux croquis de détail et cent soixante-seize gravures sur bois d'après les dessins de Riou. Paris: Librairie Hachette et Cie. 1893. 2 vols., narrow quarto.

if these two powers—he says nothing about Liberia—were driven out, France would control all the West of Africa down to the Gulf.

The route taken was from Bammako in a half-circle to the Gulf, bringing him down the river Comoé or Akba, which he surveyed and mapped out together with the grand lagunes of Bassam and Assim. The maps furnished are supplemented with all the routes



FIG. 3.—SACRED PLACE OF THE GOUROUNGAS.

of travel of late years in the same regions. They are all marked out in red and furnished with dates, thus making an excellent guide to the study of the general maps of Western Africa below the Sahara.

The regions traversed by Captain Binger are comparatively civilized. Sikasso (Fig. 1), which he goes out of his way to visit, is surrounded by stockades much in the fashion of European fortified camps, and has even outlying strongholds. Our traveler gives exhaustive descriptions of everything he sees here which may be of value in a campaign. His report, which covers many pages, reads like a reconnoitering expedition. From Lok-nognilé his course is almost directly south to Kong. That city is located in the heart of the country of Kong. He therefore stopped for a long time at this place and gives all obtainable information in his book. Fig. 2 is a view of a mosque he found here. From Kong he again went north to the country of Mossi, and back to Kong through Gourounsi, Dagomba, and Gondja, a trip of several thousand miles. His object was to locate the Volta River. On his way he repeatedly crossed or approached the route of von François in 1888. The Gouroungas we learn are fetishists, yet they have consecrated places (Fig. 3). Among the Mampoursis, who lie between the Gourounsi and the Dagomba, our traveler found autochthones among the most mixed population. On his way from Yendi he crossed a small but rap-



FIG. 4.—"CULT OF DEATH."

idly flowing river, the Palari, and observed that bridges are unknown in that country. Of the innumerable descriptions of manners and customs, we give an illustration of the "cult of death" (Fig. 4) near Fouron. After the "service" the dying one is car-

ried into an inner room of a house devoted to the purpose (Fig. 5) and left to "the tender mercies of death." The figures on the wall represent the horse on which the soul rides to the underworld.

Captain Binger's two volumes are full of all the tedious details found in similar books, but they also contain observations which

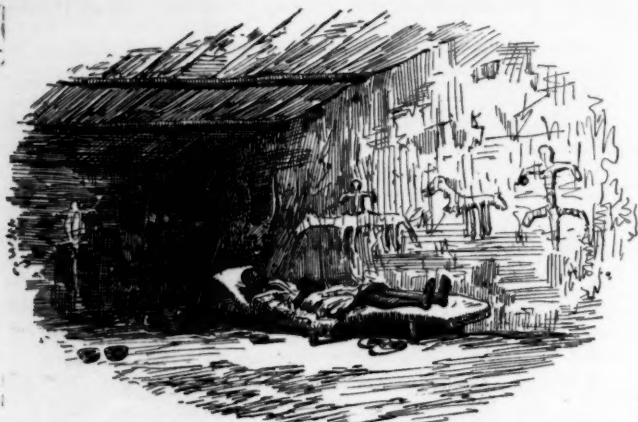


FIG. 5.—"LEFT TO THE TENDER MERCIES OF DEATH."

only an experienced reconnoiterer would make. Especially valuable are his profiles of the country, his maps showing density of population, extent of religions, and known commercial routes. He made a special study of the tattooing of faces, and devotes several pages to illustrations of the innumerable styles in which that mode of ornamentation can be applied to the human face.

MARCELLA.

THE appearance of a new novel by Mrs. Humphry Ward is a literary event. Her latest production, "Marcella,"* will be widely read. The book takes its name from the heroine, Marcella Boyce. The story, in brief, is a narrative of the conflict between her position in life and her natural instincts.

Marcella enters upon life with a sense of sordid restrictions and continual neglect, with a sense that things are not the same for her as for other girls. She spends two years in London, studying art and associating with young Bohemians who are enthusiastic Socialists. At this point, her reformed scapegrace of a father inherits Mellor Park, and she comes to the comparative luxury and positive distinction of that estate, to find herself snubbed because of her father's past misdeeds, and held at arm's length by a mother who will give her everything but love. This is the point of departure of the story.

In developing the character of Marcella, Mrs. Ward assumes that we are the creatures of heredity. She proceeds upon the hypothesis that heredity is in turn the creature of circumstance, of environment, of the play of forces which lie dormant in us, perhaps, but are only stirred to action by influences which shape them as well as bring them forth. It is in support of this view of heredity that the history of Marcella Boyce is written.

She hates landowners and all the tyranny and injustice involved in their monopoly of the land, and yet says to Aldons Raeburn, her lover: "I love the laborers for touching their hats to me. I love the school-children for bobbing to me. I love my very self—ridiculous as you may think it—for being Miss Boyce of Mellor." Nevertheless, she is a crude girl of twenty-three, stormy in temper, burning with a sense of the social injustice under which she and others have suffered and still suffer, in possession of a stock of shallow incendiary ideas,—ideas which she takes for Gospel truth. The world is all wrong, particularly that part of it ruled by Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, and she, Marcella Boyce, is going to set it right.

What was really stirring in her was a passionate ambition—an ambition to be the queen and arbiter of human lives—to be believed in by her friends, to make a mark for herself among women, and to make it in the most romantic and yet natural way.

Although the book is primarily a love story, Marcella does not

*"Marcella," by Mrs. Humphry Ward. In two volumes, octavo. New York: Macmillan & Co.

accept Raeburn, who worships her, because she loves him. She admires him, it is true, but she is willing to marry him solely for the sake of the opportunity such a marriage would give her for carrying out her schemes of village-improvement. To Marcella, Aldons Raeburn was a means to an end, and that end was to better the condition of the poor, as she thought it should be bettered. Not as the poor wanted it, but as she wanted it. The poor would much rather have been let alone, but then such people never know what is good for them.

Her betrothed had as keen a sense of the evils in the world as she, but he, with larger insight, saw that they could not be removed in a day, but required expediency, moderation, and wise patience. To such a course she would not listen. Things must be righted with a rush, and the outcome of this difference of opinion is that the engagement between Marcella and Raeburn is broken off.

Out of this separation from her lover, Marcella got a great deal of good. She goes to London, studies nursing, and lives in a tenement-house. She sees a great many things and she grows older and wiser. One of her Socialist friends, one of those who had converted her to the belief, says to her:

"You are not a Socialist. Half the things you say, or imply, show it. And we are Socialists."

"She hesitated, looking at him steadily."

"No!—so far as Socialism means a political system—the trampling out of private enterprise and competition and all the rest of it—I find myself slipping away from it more and more. No!—as I go about among these wage-earners, the emphasis—do what I will—comes to lie less and less on possession—more and more on character. I go to two tenements in the same building. One is hell—the other heaven. Why? Both belong to well-paid artisans with equal opportunities. Both, so far as I can see, might have a decent and pleasant life of it. But one is a man—the other, with all his belongings, will soon be a vagabond. That is not all, I know—oh! don't trouble to tell me so!—but it is more than I thought. No!—my sympathies in this district where I work, are not so much with the Socialists that I know here—saving your presence! but—with the people, for instance, that slave at charity-organizations! and get all the abuse from all sides."

"And as to your Socialism," she went on, the thought of many days finding expression—"it seems to me like all other interesting and important things—destined to help something else! Christianity begins with the poor and division of goods—it becomes the great bulwark of property and the feudal state. The crusaders—they set out to recover the tomb of the Lord! what they did was to increase trade and knowledge. And so with Socialism. It talks of a new order—what it will do is to help to make the old sound." Marcella acquires a thirst for social good. She ceases to think of whole classes of civilized society with abhorrence. There awakens in her that sentiment which is in truth implied in all the more majestic notions of the State—the sentiment that regards the main institutions of every great civilization, whether it be property, or law, or religious custom, as necessarily, in some degree, Divine and sacred.

Rich as the book is in thoughts on the hard struggle for life, on the abysmal degradations of the poor in city and country, on the obligations of the highest and lowest, on strikes and on political unions, we shall have done injustice to Mrs. Ward if we have given the impression that she preaches, or uses her characters as stalking-horses for her own ideas.



MRS. HUMPHRY WARD.

SCIENCE.

DEPARTMENT EDITOR, - - - ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK, PH.D.

DR. D'ARSONVAL'S RESEARCHES IN
ELECTRO-PHYSIOLOGY.

CH.-ED. GUILLAUME.

THE recent discoveries of electric science in the production of oscillations of high frequency have opened up hitherto unexplored fields not only in industry, but also in the department of electro-therapeutics. Dr. D'Arsonval, whose achievements in electric invention rendered him specially qualified for the task, has pursued a course of electro-physiological researches for which the Academy of Sciences awarded him the La Caze prize.

We forbear from going into the purely physiological part of the subject, but it will be interesting to describe some very curious phenomena to which currents of high frequency give rise, after having indicated concisely the means by which they are generated.

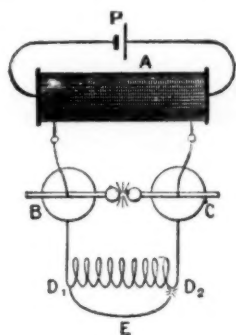


FIG. 1.

laboratory possessing a minimum of standard electrical apparatus.

The earliest researches of Dr. D'Arsonval date some time back, and the question of the physiological action of currents of all frequencies was solved in France before Tesla's first publications in America.

It is known that under certain conditions an electric discharge becomes oscillatory. A very simple arrangement serves for the production of currents of this class. A Ruhmkorff coil (A, Fig. 1) serves to charge two Leyden jars by their inside coatings. The discharge produced between the knobs is oscillating. The potential of the exterior coatings varies with the same frequency, but in the wire which unites them the current varies much more suddenly than in the circuit containing the spark. If we unite the exterior coatings by a coil, DD, composed of ten spiral twists of large copper wire, we have a short circuit for an ordinary current, and a difference of potential of some volts could not exist between the coatings without sending a current through the wire sufficiently strong to volatilize it in the twinkling of an eye. But here the oscillating discharge exhibits a peculiar characteristic. It shows an invincible repugnance to enter the wire. The reason is simple: the extremely rapid fluctuation of potential set up at the ends of the coil produces currents that vary with formidable rapidity, and are endowed consequently with an enormous power of induction. The induction of each turn of the coil acts on the others, and the current which results tends every instant to annul the primary current, so that only a small part of it is transmitted. It is not here a question only of true or ohmic resistance; we have to reckon with an opposing force due to induction, to which the name of *impedance* has been given. This is the sum of the impedimenta which the current encounters in its course. This explains why the oscillating discharge rebels against entering the wire. By applying a wire, E, to the extremity D¹ and bringing the other end within easy distance of D² (Fig. 1), there is seen in the interval a sheaf of sparks more than a centimeter in length. Thus the discharge traverses one centimeter of air more easily than a wire whose resistance is practically negligible, but which has much self-induction. Now what will happen if we touch the extremities of the coil? Apparently we should receive the whole discharge, accompanied by so powerful a shock that, in the language of one of the earliest electricians, we would not repeat the experiment to be King of

France. But to our astonishment we experience no shock, not even the slightest prickling. Has the discharge taken another course? Not at all, for if instead of touching the wire at both ends, we approach one end only with a little piece of metal held in the hand, the sparks reappear. Better still, we can place an incandescent lamp in the circuit and see it illuminated brilliantly. The current traverses our body without our suspecting it. To what then must we attribute its harmlessness? At first the idea suggested itself that the current made the circuit of the body without passing through it. Something is without doubt due to this cause, but it is not the sole cause of the immunity. The researches of Dr. D'Arsonval have demonstrated that the neuromuscular phenomena increase in intensity with the frequency, up to 3,000 alternations per second, remain stationary up to near 5,000 alternations, beyond which they decrease and finally become imperceptible. Nevertheless the physiological action of the current is far from being null; its passage through the tissues is attended by very curious effects. If one, grasping a pair of large metal conductors, allows the current for a certain time to pass through his hands, the skin becomes insensible, and the insensibility persists from a few minutes to half-an-hour. In these conditions, and also if one insulate one's self by means of glass on a table, and touch only one pole, one experiences a sensation of heat, accompanied by a copious flow of sweat, together with a considerable vascularization of the cutaneous surface. Hence the current traverses the body, but the nerves are insensible to currents of high frequency.

The experiments above noted were made with the small appliances described at the outset. With larger apparatus, in which the coil is replaced by a transformer connected with an alternating-current and dynamo, and the sparks from the Leyden jars are produced in a powerful magnetic field, they form a luminous circle, and produce a deafening noise. In this case a whole row of incandescent lamps held in the hand may be lighted without any metallic communication with the instrument. As M. Cornu said at the Academy of Science on July 3, 1893, "one cannot doubt that an enormous amount of energy traverses our bodies; transmitted in the form of alternating currents with a frequency of from 100 to 10,000 per second."

In all these experiments the oscillating current, generated in a metallic circuit, was employed, either for physiological effects or for its physical action; but, as we have seen, this current possesses an enormous inductive power. Why, then, does it not produce direct induction in the living tissues? Every part of the



FIG. 2.

body would thus become the seat of an electromotive force, and the whole person would be uniformly penetrated by currents having their origin in the very interior of the tissues. That this is so was demonstrated by D'Arsonval in the experiment shown in Fig. 2. The operator carries an incandescent lamp on his forehead. This lamp-mounted on a single turn of wire, is removed some

centimeters from a crown with which it has no direct communication. This last, traversed by an oscillatory discharge, develops in the ring a current sufficient to keep the lamp lighted. It is hence evident that the head itself must be traversed by analogous currents.

The existence of currents produced by auto-conduction in the human body is, perhaps, rendered evident by the following con-



FIG. 3.

clusive experiment. If the operator enfold in his arm a solenoid as in Fig. 3, and complete the circuit by a lamp which he holds in his hands by handles, the lamp will be illuminated. A similar phenomenon is seen if the operator enclose himself in a coil or solenoid wound round a suitable framework.

These currents of high frequency have given us already some curious results such as could not have been predicted four or five years ago. The physiological action is mysterious, but the field is so new that no one can pretend to estimate the possibilities opened up by it.—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST from *La Nature*, Paris.

THE NEWEST ABOUT EARTHWORMS.

FRANK E. BEDDARD, F.R.S.

PERHAPS the very last attribute that would seem to characterize the earthworm is the capacity for making a noise. It is, however, an undoubted fact, that in the island of Java there exists a worm which in the night produces a sharp interrupted sound. In the vernacular of the country it is named *tjatrang sondarie*; the more technical but not less apt name of *Megascolex musicus* was subsequently given to it, but we can only speculate as to the purpose served by this curious deviation from the normal. Mr. Darwin first brought the earthworm into fashion, and since he wrote about it, it has steadily gone up in position, so that it may now fairly claim to rank with the invertebrate aristocracy. There is no doubt at all about its ancient lineage. It has in all probability been a native of the soil ever since there was any soil to be native of.

Instead of retiring at the approach of man, as most creatures do, it has been in many places positively increased in numbers by man, in spite of trout-fishers. By various means it is able to triumph over various defects in its equipment for the battle of life. "The struggle for existence" must be a phrase absolutely without meaning for the earth-worm. Although generally speaking it has no organs of special sense, it has all the special senses. It can hear, its palate is delicate, it is aware of light and darkness. It can even circumvent the early bird at times: sometimes by astuteness, at others by peculiarity of structure. In the forests of South America and some other parts of the world, there is a small species provided with a clear spot toward the tail, at which it is very brittle. If a bird grasp it anywhere behind this spot, the worm sheds its tail and goes on its way rejoicing.* In

* See article on "Autotomy," LITERARY DIGEST, Vol. VIII., No. 21, p. 527.

this respect the worm offers a curious analogy to lizards, snails, and some insects: a part is sacrificed to save the whole. No other earthworm, so far as is known, is endowed with any special provision for parting with a section of itself with impunity, but others may suffer a considerable loss of length with the utmost indifference. There are even species, not indeed true earthworms, but close allies, which, when they find themselves getting too large, voluntarily break up into shorter, and, it must be presumed, more convenient lengths. The agitation produced by a slight handling of the creature suffices to produce these results. When this happens, and one or two pieces have been devoured, it is difficult to say whether the animal has been killed or not. The individual becomes a little confused under the circumstances. Each fragment, be it observed, can grow into a complete worm, so that the *lumbriculus*, as this particular worm is called, consists of a committee of one, with power to add to its number.

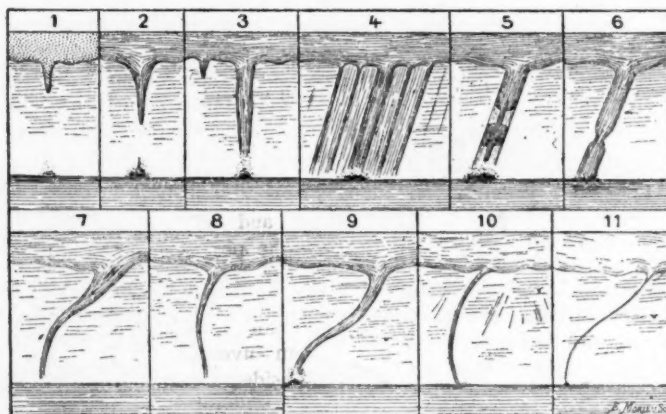
The fact about earthworms which is, perhaps, of chief interest to naturalists is their astonishing diversity of structure under a great uniformity of shape. Change of shape is not desirable; they have already got that best suited to a burrowing creature. Hence all the energy of variability has been expended on the internal organs. It will probably astonish some of my readers to learn that there are more than two hundred different kinds of earthworms, every country having its own characteristic species. Some of them are of the most brilliant colors. In South Africa there is a monster of its kind—six feet in length—of a bright grass-green color with orange under-parts. These worms are highly intelligent. Two of them were observed crawling at a great rate, evidently with an appointment to keep, and they crawled in a straight line until they met. What sense could have guided them?

Another curious point is the great colonizing power of European species. Whenever a European worm is introduced into a tropical country, the native worm recognizes his superior vigor and retires to a back-seat. The converse does not hold good. Foreign worms do not flourish in Britain. This parallelism between the European man and worm is further shown by the pigmentation of the body; the earth-worms of tropical countries are frequently deeper in color than those of more temperate latitudes.

There is then more similarity between worms and men than might appear, in spite of various well-known remarks and comparisons.—Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST from *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*, March.

A WATERSPOUT IN THE RED SEA.

DR. PAUL GOUZIEN contributes to *La Nature*, Paris, January 20, a description of a waterspout which he had the opportunity of witnessing while passing through the Red Sea on September 21, 1893. It was, he writes, at 8.40 A.M., when we were within sight of the islands Djebil Zebayir, that a water-



SUCCESSIVE PHASES OF WATERSPOUT.

spout in course of formation was signaled in the southeast. A vapory protuberance issued from a great cloud, and lengthened itself slowly, like a tentacle, toward the sea, which responded with a violent ebullition at the point of contact. The air was calm,

the thermometer registered 32° C. in the ship's upper battery, and the fierce sky shedding its rays through the low clouds was reflected in an almost calm sea. There were no other electro-atmospheric phenomena apparent. Presently, a spiral tongue raised itself on the crest of the mass of boiling water, and, with a whirl, came into contact with the point of the descending vapory tentacle, and the waterspout was formed. At this moment it assumed the form of a long hour-glass with unequal bulbs, the lower of very small dimensions. Its edges were dark and well-defined, the middle much less dark, the well-defined base black and surmounted by a soft space, so clear that the liquid column appeared interrupted at this level, as if the foot were separated from the top. In Fig. 4 in the cut, the waterspout forming a regular cylinder is at the maximum of its development, gently inclined from top to bottom, and from right to left, a direction which it maintained until it disappeared. The color is dark gray, always darkest near the edges, and, on the contrary, attenuated toward the base. On both sides of this cylinder are seen two gray bands, representing, without doubt, two small lateral waterspouts (one of these is commencing to form in Fig. 3). The whole collection of five columns of water is enveloped in a sort of gray transparent muff which seems to reach to the sky, and appears to be composed of watery vapor slightly condensed (Fig. 4). Passing to the next stage (Fig. 5), the waterspout undergoes a curious transformation. It still appears as a regular cylinder, but the color is not uniform, and the darker portion continuous with the lower edge presents the appearance of a reversed chandelier with its appointments. The resemblance is heightened by the ebullition at the base of the column, which presents the appearance of melted fat. The form of the hour-glass recurs, but in a different manner (Fig. 6). Then, without doubt under the influence of a light breeze following a calm, the waterspout undulates, and contorts itself with remarkable suppleness, looking like a frail column of smoke uniting sea and sky. Passing from the cylindrical form, it became conical, then passed to the previous form. At the same time it contracted and paled gradually, preserving its shape to the stage (Fig. 9) where it dilated and suddenly darkened, foaming at the base as if it were ready to re-form. As regards the generating cloud it appeared to empty itself gradually into the cone of vapor, and at the close of the phenomenon all trace of it disappeared. Suddenly the waterspout is attenuated and assumes the aspect shown in Fig. 10. This stage is not very prolonged, preceding by only a few seconds the close of the phenomenon.

In Fig. 11, the column becomes filiform and sensibly deflected. While Dr. Gouzien was tracing this last phase on the paper, the thread broke and the phenomenon vanished—time, 8.57 A.M. —Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

SUBMARINE PHOTOGRAPHY.

IN the *Magasin Pittoresque*, Paris, March 15, M. Perron describes the experiments of M. Boutan, of the Sorbonne, in photographing under water. For this purpose he employs a sort of detective camera, enclosed in a strong box, and fitted with an elastic compensation-bulb as shown in the illustration. This

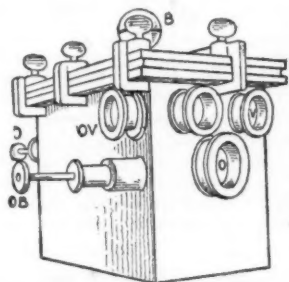


FIG. 1

bulb contains air which is forced into the camera in greater and greater degree as it descends under water, thus equalizing the pressure without and within. For slight depths the photographs are taken by sunlight, but for great depths artificial light is used, the apparatus shown in the second illustration having been invented by M. Boutan after considerable experimentation. It is practically an ordinary magnesium-powder flash-light, fed with

still be used, an exposure of 15 to 50 minutes is necessary. The operator, after fixing his camera in position on a specially devised stand, presses the button and signals to his assistant in the boat above, who times the exposure, and signals back when it is to end. This course is necessary, for it is hardly possible for the operator to carry a time-piece. The limitation of the horizon is very noticeable in these submarine photographs. In air there is hardly a limit to the distance at which a photograph may be taken, but in water the light is almost completely absorbed at the distance of a few feet. When the flash-light is used there is no trouble in taking instantaneous pictures at any distance to which the diver chooses to descend. The photographs, though, they have not the clearness and definiteness of outline that distinguish those taken in the upper air, are very interesting, and promise to be of use both to the naturalist and the artist. —Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

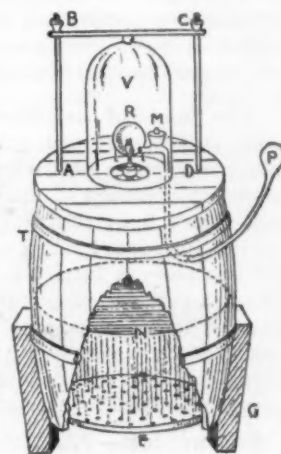


FIG. 2

RECENT SCIENCE.

The Brilliancy of a Candle.—Herr Glan, a German physicist, has recently shown that the brilliancy of a candle-flame is in direct ratio to its volume—that is, equal volumes give equal amounts of light. In estimating the volume, however, account is taken only of the luminous portion, which is that between two cones—the conical outer envelope of the flame and the dark cone of unconsumed gas within. Commenting on these researches, *The Electrician*, London, March 23, calls to mind the easy experiment devised by Professor Stokes, many years ago, for demonstrating the hollowness of such a flame by focusing sunlight on it with a lens. Two brilliant discs are seen, one where the beam enters the flame and one where it leaves it, the carbon particles appearing brighter in the sunlight than they do by their own incandescence. *The Electrician* remarks that every candle-flame is not exactly circular in section, but rather oval, owing to the curvature of the wick, and that this fact is recognized in photometry, where the flame is always measured flat side on. The exact shape of the section might be demonstrated by an extension of Stokes's experiment, a narrow horizontal slice of sunlight being sent across the flame. The mean sectional area of a flame is about one-half a square inch, so that a candle gives out light at the rate of about two candle-power per square inch.

Some Dangers of the Schoolroom.—Under the title of "Some Derangements of the Heart and Stomach produced by the Usual Position assumed by Children in School," Dr. Motais read an interesting and important paper before the Academy of Medicine of Paris, which is reported in *The London Lancet*, March 31. By the "usual position assumed in school" Dr. Motais means that attitude in which the pupil seats himself on the ischial tuberosity, supporting himself by leaning on the left elbow and stooping forward, so that the trunk of the body then develops an antero-lateral curvature. The result is that the border of the false ribs on the left side descends until it is in contact with the iliac crest, so that the larger curvature of the stomach is pressed upon the spleen and general mass of the intestines. A fold is also formed at the upper part of the abdominal wall, and the anterior surface of the stomach follows the curve. These conditions produce a mechanical hindrance to the movements of the cardiac stomach. The function of the thoracic viscera is equally interfered with, owing to the drawing together of the ribs and also by the descent of the left half of the diaphragm toward the upper border of the stomach. The obstacle to respiration thus created reacts on the heart, the contractions of which are, moreover, mechanically hindered by the distortion of the thoracic cavity. The neck is necessarily somewhat twisted, and the large vessels at the root, therefore, are submitted to a certain amount of torsion. The

effect of the attitude is especially marked when an organic affection of the heart exists. Dr. Motais is of opinion that this position protracts the duration of dyspepsia. He has found that if children who suffer from it are made to assume a correct posture in school the symptoms subside more rapidly. The same observations are applicable to adults engaged in sedentary occupations.

The Origin of the Strawberry.—L. H. Bailey, in *The American Naturalist*, April, after an exhaustive discussion concludes that the common garden strawberry of England and America is a direct modification of the Chili strawberry. The modified type has driven from cultivation the Virginian berries, which were earlier introduced into gardens, and the original type of the Chilian berry is little known, as it tends to disappear quickly through variation when cultivated. This conclusion is of great interest to botanists, for if it is justified, a type of plant has been differentiated in less than fifty years so completely that, in the first place, three species have been erected upon it, and, secondly, rarely associated by horticulturists with its parent species.

Carborundum.—*The Scientific American*, April 7, gives an illustrated account of the commercial manufacture of this new abradent, which is an artificial compound of carbon and silica, invented by Mr. E. G. Acheson. Though totally unknown a few years ago, the quantity manufactured in 1893 amounted to 15,200 pounds. The process of manufacture is as follows: A mixture of ground coke, glass, sand, and salt is subjected to intense heat in an electrical furnace for ten to fourteen hours, which effects the desired chemical combination of the carbon and silica. The mass is then separated into its component crystals by crushing, sorted in water, and then mixed with an appropriate binding material. After moulding into grinding-wheels or other desired forms, it is then fired from four to six days in a potter's kiln, when the articles are turned or trued up, and are then ready for use. They are used largely in the manufacture of "ground-stopper" electric lamps, dentists' wheels and points, and diamond-cutting.

The Melting of Mars' Polar Ice-Caps.—In *Astronomy and Astro-Physics*, April, Prof. W. H. Pickering calls attention to the fact that on May 30, 1894, the planet Mars will reach the same portion of its orbit that it occupied on July 12, 1892, when, as described in the same magazine at that time, a series of conspicuous changes were observed upon the surface at the time of the melting of the polar ice-cap. It is natural to suppose that similar changes will take place in May, and all who have telescopes should be on the watch for them. The changes included the appearance of a dark line connecting the great split in the southern snow-cap with the northern sea, and a series of striking alterations in the shape and color of the regions surrounding this sea.

Chemical Reactions Studied Electrically.—M. J. Garnier (Paris Academy of Sciences, March 12) has shown that in mixtures of metallic oxides and wood-charcoal the variations of electrical resistance are different in the course of the reactions, and hence the resulting variation of current may be employed to indicate the course of a reaction. Thus many metallurgical operations may be followed, notably the refining of metals whose conductivities vary according to their composition. Thus the manufacturer may follow, in his office, by watching the indicating needles of amperemeters and voltmeters, the phases of manufacture of steel, copper, nickel, or other metals.

A Very High Cloud.—The height of very lofty clouds may be measured approximately in either of two ways—by triangulation from observations taken by two observers some distance apart, or by observing their illumination by the sun before sunrise or after sunset. According to *Nature*, March 29, Prof. Cleveland Abbe reports an observation of the latter kind from Potosi, Mo., where on December 16, 1893, an observer saw a delicate cloud almost in the zenith illuminated by the sun one hour and forty minutes before sunrise. Calculation shows that to be so illuminated the cloud must have been at least ten miles high. At latitude 32° at midsummer, when the sun is only 15° below the horizon at midnight, clouds have been seen illuminated at that hour.

The Eozoon Canadense.—This name will bring before students of geology the recollection of a bitter controversy the echoes of which have not yet died away. It is a mineral of peculiar structure, which, if the advocates of one side of the controversy be correct, is the fossil remains of the very earliest life of which we have evidence on the globe, but which, according to others, is of purely mineral origin. It has lately been shown by Dr. J. W. Gregory and Prof. Johnston-Lavis (Royal Dublin Society, February 21) that limestone in the volcanic crater of Monte Somma, Italy, frequently becomes metamorphosed into crystalline masses presenting precisely the same structure as that so characteristic of the alleged Canadian fossil, chemical penetration and interaction simulating perfectly the skeleton and the so-called canal system of the *Eozoon*.

SCIENCE NOTES.

UNDERGROUND London is getting to be many stories deep. The new City and Waterloo underground electric railway, in traversing Queen Victoria Street, passes for a considerable distance directly underneath the low level sewer, which in its turn runs beneath the underground railroad. The electric road at this point is 63 feet below the surface.

ACCORDING to *The American Engineer*, a member of the New York Railroad Club, after listening to a paper in which it was stated that the coefficient of friction between an axle and the brass depended largely on the quality of the materials, the oil used, etc., remarked that practical railroad men had other things to attend to besides looking after coefficients of friction. The Editor, in commenting, says with truth, that this is precisely the sort of thing that the practical railroad man ought to be attending to, and the fact that he does not do so accounts for many a hot-box and for inability to run longer trains. The feeling betrayed by the remark is characteristic of much of the "practicality" which has its periodical fling at the "theorist," and is responsible for much slipshod work.

AMONG people over fifty, danger of death from heart failure, after sudden exertion, as in running for a train, is by no means confined to such as have obvious heart-disease. Many hearts, while showing no symptoms of disease, are unfit to stand a sudden strain, and for such, a run to catch a train, and especially a run uphill, is sufficient to produce a dilatation which may start a long or even fatal illness, or may cause immediate death. It is interesting to observe how frequently the catastrophe occurs after the effort is over. While the race is in full swing there is plenty of room in the systemic circulation, and thus, although the heart works hard, it does not work against a great resistance. When, however, the exertion is over, things are very different. Suddenly, when the object of ambition is secured, the contracting lung pours into the left side of the heart the excess of blood which it had contained, and the arterial tension increases in consequence of the lessened demand for blood by the tissues. The heart, then, with more blood to propel and a greater resistance to overcome, is strained to the utmost, and if its tissues are weak, the result is often fatal. Runners who have been on the verge of this condition agree in saying that the sense of palpitation and suffocation comes on after violent exertion ceases, that it is aggravated by sitting still, and that it is best relieved by movement and continued deep respiration.

TREES are now felled to a considerable extent by electricity. A platinum wire, heated white-hot by the current, is used, stretched between two poles, as a saw. There is less work than with a saw, no sawdust is produced, and the charring of the surface of division tends to prevent decay. In some cases the time required to fell a tree by this method is only one-eighth of that necessary for sawing.

ANOTHER attempt to photograph the Sun's corona in full sunlight will soon be made by Professor George E. Hale, who is now abroad and will visit Mt. Etna specially for the purpose about May 15. Professor Hale's persistent efforts to discover a way of achieving this much-sought-for result will, says *Astronomy and Astro-Physics*, we believe, be rewarded with success before long.

AN accident recently occurred at the power-station of an electric railway in a large city, which stopped all the cars. When the damage was repaired and the current turned on to the lines, the circuit-breakers all dropped, showing that the wires were overloaded. Again and again it was tried to get the lines in operation, with the same result. The difficulty was that every motorman, as soon as he found the current on, started his car, and the simultaneous demand from so many sources overloaded the wires. Riders were sent out to repress some of the cars, and so the system was got into motion gradually. The wiring was subsequently changed so as to allow of starting by sections.

THERE are 43 electric railroads in Europe, employing 538 motor-cars and locomotives, and 151 trailers. The systems are divided as follows: Trolley, 31; central rail, 8; underground conductor, 2; storage-battery, 2. There are 24 lines now building, all of which will probably be running before the year is out. A large number of the systems used are American.

HERBERT SPENCER says that 30 per cent. of the people who receive gratuitous medical attendance at the London hospitals and dispensaries are able to pay their doctors.

THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

THE trial of Bishop Bonacum of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska, under the authority of Mgr. Satolli, the Papal Delegate, is no ordinary occurrence. The Apostolic Delegate has appointed Archbishop Hennessey of Dubuque to preside. At the first sitting of the inquiry there were fully fifty nuns and priests summoned as witnesses. The charges against the Bishop number fifteen, and there are 115 specifications, including maladministration, tyranny, oppression, insubordination, inciting strife, slander and libel, arbitrary exercise and abuse of power, violation of diocesan statutes, misappropriation, falsehood, speculation, undue influence, unjust favoritism, scandal, gambling, and incitation to perjury. It is stated that Archbishop Hennessey has quashed the whole inquiry, and that the Papal Delegate is much incensed.

Even the Mahatmas seem bent upon mischief, for the Theosophist leaders are in trouble. Colonel Olcott, the Theosophist leader in India, is at open warfare with Mr. Judge, the Theosophist leader in New York, and Mrs. Annie Besant has formally demanded a official inquiry into Mr. Judge's misuse of the Mahatma's names and handwriting. In the mean time, Mr. Judge is in possession of the ashes of the cremated Blavatsky, and it would seem only natural to suppose that he is in favor with the American Mahatmas.

The atmosphere of dissension has also environed the peaceful conditions of the native church in the remote province of Tinnevely in South India. It appears that the native Christians are in the habit of seeking desirable husbands for their daughters among the heathen, that they demand that titles of honor shall be appended to their names in the publication of the banns of marriage, and that in some cases the wedding-ring may be rejected for the use of a gold ornament attached to a necklace. Bishop Johnson of Calcutta, as Metropolitan of India, has been consulted, and he has condemned in no measured terms the practice of a father giving his daughter in marriage to a heathen man because he could not find a Christian husband for her of his own degree. Such a man, he says, should be at once excommunicated. When publishing banns, the Metropolitan decidedly thought that honorific titles had much better be omitted. There was a principle, he said, which ought always to be borne in mind and acted upon—namely, that within the four walls of the house of God all men are equal, and must be treated as equal in the sight of God. On the subject of the *tali* (a small gold ornament attached to a necklace, which takes the place of the ring in the marriage ceremony) he expressed a preference for the ring as being more suitable.

THE "HIGHER CRITICISM," AND THE VERDICT OF THE MONUMENTS.

THE Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge, London, has done a bold thing in putting forth, as one of its publications, that of Professor Sayce of Oxford, on The Verdict of the Ancient Monuments on the Historic Character of the Old Testament. The Tract Committee of the S. P. C. K. offer an apology for so doing, but they are careful to state that the author alone is responsible for his opinions. Professor Sayce frequently reminds his readers that he is writing as an archeologist, not as a theologian, and that, therefore, all questions of Inspiration or Revelation lie quite outside his province. The author maintains that in his investigations the records of the Old Testament have been confronted with the monuments of the ancient, Oriental world, wherever this was possible, and their historical accuracy and trustworthiness have been tested by a comparison with the latest results of archeological research.

Speaking of the early chapters of Genesis, Professor Sayce emphasizes the presence in them of a strong Babylonian element. The tablets containing the Babylonian cosmogony, which were first brought to light, now nearly twenty years ago, by Mr. George Smith, are quoted, and it is shown how the narrative of the first chapter of Genesis is dependent upon it. Even the Sabbath, we are told, is an institution of Babylonian origin. Professor Sayce quotes, moreover, another Babylonian narrative, exhibiting a different conception of the order of creation, and representing a habitation prepared for men and gods before mankind and the beasts of the fields had been formed, and while plants and trees were still uncreated, which, as he points out, agrees with the representation of the "Jehovist" in Gen. ii. 3; iii. 25, as against that of the "Elohists" in i. 1; ii. 4. The scenery of Genesis ii.—Eden, the four rivers, the *shoham* (A. V. onyx) stone—is Babylonian: "the garden and its mystical tree were known to the inhabitants of Chaldea in pre-Semitic days;"

even the beliefs that woman was created out of man, and that man by sin fell from a state of innocence, are alluded to in ancient Sumerian texts. In comparing these Babylonian narratives with those in Genesis, Professor Sayce insists upon the entirely different complexion which they assume in the hands of the Biblical writers; they are stripped of their polytheism, accommodated to the Hebrew point of view, and made the vehicle of profound religious truths.

It is in this spirit that the learned professor has undertaken his interesting work. He is, however, somewhat hard upon the higher critics. He says it is the inability of German, French, and English critics to recognize the vital difference that exists between the Oriental and European world that has been the cause of so vast an amount of wasted time and labor over the records of the Old Testament. "Apologists," and "higher critics" alike have treated the Old Testament books and their contents as if they had been written in England, France, or Germany. They transform the men of ancient Israel into men of medieval Europe, sometimes even into men of modern Europe, and they criticize the Biblical writers as if they had lived in an age of newspapers and reviews. It has been said that one of the chief defects of the Teutonic and Anglo-Saxon mind is its want of historical imagination. It must also be remembered that in Oriental archeology we have nothing to do with theology. The archeologist writes for the historian, not for the homilist or the defender of dogma.—Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE GENTLEMAN IN THE LOOSE BOX.

THERE are few clergymen more popular among the working-classes of England than S. Reynolds Hole, the humorous Dean of Rochester, who will probably visit the United States this Summer. Many years ago, Mr. Hole, as a country vicar, was known only as the author of "A Book about Roses," and "The Six of Spades, a Book about Gardening," but, after a quiet ministry of about a quarter of a century, Mr. Hole suddenly developed into a powerful popular preacher and platform speaker. It was in his addresses to working-men that he first made his mark, and some of these addresses are now collected and published. A recent volume has been placed in our hands by Mr. Whitaker of New York, which enables us to give the way in which Dean Hole touches upon the pew-question. Once upon a time, he says, a country clergyman kept a horse, and the man who groomed the horse discharged a great variety of other duties, including that of taking up the collection every Sunday in church. On one occasion he had given up the plate, when a sudden recollection caused him to return and whisper to the Vicar, "If you please, sir, you must let me have it again, for I've forgotten the gentleman in the loose box," indicating with his thumb an individual who monopolized one of those spacious cushioned and carpeted pews, looking like a brand-new sleeping-car, with one passenger, in the middle of a train of third-class carriages, filled with people.

This gentleman in the loose box, in the cushioned pew, has



Yours sincerely
S. Reynolds Hole.

done immeasurable harm to religion generally; to the Church of England, specially; and to social sympathies and intercourse. Immeasurable harm to religion, natural and revealed. For reason, eyesight, experience, show us that God is no respecter of persons. His great gifts, light, heat, food, strength, beauty, wisdom, are for all. There is no preference nor precedence. And revelation confirms and develops these true instincts. In the Old Testament we read a great deal about the construction of the Tabernacle, when God pitched His tent among men; of the pure gold, which He used for the Ark and the Mercy-seat; of the Altar and its vessels; of the pillars round about the court, filleted with silver; of the curtain of fine linen, blue and purple and scarlet; of the pure olive oil, beaten for the light, to make the lamp to burn always. We read of men specially consecrated to conduct the services, but we don't read of any members of the Congregation being admitted to special places and privileges on payment of money. The Tabernacle was made, the priests were maintained, the expenses were paid by voluntary contributions, by offertories. There were no pews in the Temple, or that proud Pharisee would have had a grand pagoda, from which, under the pretense of prayer, he might have made an oration upon his own merits, and have looked with disdain upon the publican standing afar off in the corner, and despising himself, while God's angels were shouting for joy, "Saved! Saved!"

Incalculable harm has been done to the Church of England by the gentleman in the loose box. There was a time when we were satisfied, or pretty nearly satisfied, with one form of Christianity in England. Now we have got over two hundred forms of Christianity. There are even families of which the members cannot make up their minds to go to the same place of worship. One prefers church, the other chapel. One sister is High, and another is Low or Broad. And that impudent young brother, only too glad of an excuse for evading his duty, takes out his pipe and his *Sporting Times*, and says, "When you've settled it among yourselves which of your religions is best, you can call again upon yours truly!"—*Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

THE DAY OF THE BIBLE.

PROF. JOHN A. ZAHM, of the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, in *The American Ecclesiastical Review*, Philadelphia, gives a summary of the views of the Early Christian Church regarding the Day of Genesis.

The Alexandrine School, of which the illustrious Origen was the most distinguished representative, favored what is known as the *allegorical, mystical, or ideal* system of interpreting the Genesisic Days. The Syrian School stoutly opposed the teachings of the Alexandrines, and advocated what is called the *literal* system. The most eminent exponents of this system were St. Ephrem and St. John Chrysostom and the great Cappadocian, St. Basil. The third system, adopted by Cardinal Wiseman, Buckland, Chalmers, and other distinguished scientists of their time; defends what is known as the theory of *intervals* or *restitution*. The fourth system, which is the one now generally preferred, is called the *period* or *concordistic* system. The last two systems are quite modern and do not antedate the present century. They are based on the discoveries of geology and paleontology, and are attempts to reconcile the teachings of science with those of revelation. The period or concordistic system is due to the great Cuvier, who gave the first exposition of it in 1821.

Besides these four systems of interpretation, I must direct attention to a fifth, known as the *eclectic* system—championed by St. Gregory of Nyssa and St. Augustine. It has had many followers, and has, probably, wielded a greater influence in exegesis, and that too for a longer time, than any other system of interpretation.

According to the Alexandrine school, the Mosaic narrative of creation is to be interpreted as a simple allegory. The six days are not to be understood in a literal, but in a mystical sense. The work of creation was not distributed over a period of six days of twenty-four hours each, but all things in the material universe—the cosmos—were created instantly and simultaneously. The words of Moses are to be understood not in their natural and

ordinary acceptance, but are to be interpreted in a figurative sense. And more than this. By this method of procedure the text was forced to disclose divers moral and dogmatic teachings which are entirely excluded by the literal and common meaning of the words.

The allegorical method of interpretation, which exercised such a profound influence on scriptural exegesis in the earlier ages of the Church, was introduced by the rabbinical schools of Palestine long anterior to the Christian Era. It, however, found its strongest advocates in the Judæo-Alexandrine School, of which Aristobulus and Philo Judæus were the chief representatives. It is in Origen, a pupil of St. Clement, that we find the most ardent advocate of allegorism. He was unquestionably the most learned man of his time. His knowledge was truly encyclopediac in character. He was not only a master of all branches of sacred knowledge, but was profoundly versed in all the departments of profane science as well. He studied the Sacred Scriptures from every point of view, and wrote numerous and exhaustive commentaries on them. He established a school which was famous throughout the Orient and introduced a system of exegesis that left its impress on all subsequent systems. It was the theory that the Mosaic days were days of twenty-four hours each that he repudiated, and which he found impossible to reconcile with either the facts of nature or the words of the Sacred Text. We may, therefore, say of Origen what the Abbé Motais affirms of the school of which the erudite Alexandrine was the most illustrious representative: "It is then undeniable that the School of Alexandria taught in reality but one thing: the inadequateness of days of twenty-four hours for the interpretation of Moses."

St. John Chrysostom formally repudiates the teaching of Origen and his school regarding simultaneous creation. God could, indeed, he is willing to concede, have created the universe in the twinkling of an eye, but He did not choose to do so. On the contrary, He deigned to conform, in a measure, with our way of acting, in order that we might the more readily comprehend His work.

The Syrian schools, as distinguished from that of Alexandria, contend that the true sense of Holy Writ is to be found by a strict interpretation of the letter of the text, without, however, excluding entirely all allegory. But, with them, the figurative sense is always secondary. They escaped, indeed, the reefs encountered by Origen and his followers; but they ran foul of other obstacles equally perilous. In their anxiety to preserve intact the Word of God, they fell into numerous errors in matters of science from which the Alexandrine school escaped.—*Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

CONFUCIUS, THE SAGE OF CHINA.

WHATEVER China is, politically, socially, and morally, it is through the teachings of Confucius. His name is given to the chief religion of his land, his teachings are the subject of the education of the people, his maxims are the guide to the nation, and he himself is an object of worship. And this wonderful influence has existed for twenty-two centuries.

Mrs. Boyd Carpenter, in an interesting article on "The Sage of China" in the April number of *The Sunday Magazine*, London says: Confucius died a disheartened man with words of failure on his lips, and his dream of reforming the world by the inculcation of right principles did not meet with any measure of success until his death. In his life he was despised and rejected. By posterity he is honored and even worshiped as THE PERFECT SAGE. Temples have been erected to his honor in every city of the Empire, and by the people of China he is spoken of as "the throneless King." But he owed his fame very largely to the devotion of his disciple Mencius, and to others who kept his teachings alive and handed them down to posterity in a permanent form.

From a worldly point of view, his life was a failure. His father, after divorcing his first wife, at the age of seventy married a young lady who became the mother of Confucius, 500 B.C. Dying when the little boy was three years old, he left his family in straitened circumstances. Poverty is an excellent training-ground, and in later life Confucius was wont to admit that he owed much to his early experience; but, as he married, according to the

custom of his nation, before he was twenty, he was compelled to accept a post as keeper of stores and superintendent of pastures and herds. These uncongenial duties he conscientiously fulfilled for the support of his wife and child, and we may gather a hint of his character from the testimony of Mencius as to his efficiency in such work. Through all his teaching there runs a note of thoroughness. "Sincerity" is often on his lips; "hold faithfulness and sincerity as first principles," he taught. "Be reverent" was the refrain of the older Chinese books, on which doubtless he was reared. "The superior man by his self-reverence maintains inward correctness." It is as though he said, "Realize the far-reaching quality of even the least thing; have a reverent regard for its importance, be true in the very smallest particular, be sincere even in thought." "The superior man even when he is not acting has a feeling of reverence; and when he does not speak he has the feeling of truthfulness." "Allow no self-deception; the superior man must be watchful over himself when he is alone."

"When in your chamber, 'neath its light
Maintain your conscience pure and bright."

These are his teachings, and we have not grown beyond them even in the Nineteenth Century.

Confucius believed that he had a mission from Heaven to teach the true principles of human duty and of government. In this



GRAVE OF CONFUCIUS.

belief he never wavered, and during one of his administrations under the Marquis of Lu he had the satisfaction for two years of seeing the beneficent result of his principles.

"Crime ceased," we are told; "dissoluteness and dishonesty hid their heads. Loyalty and good faith became the characteristics of the men, chastity and docility those of the women. He was the idol of the people, and flew in songs through their mouth." But it did not last. The other States grew jealous of the prosperity of Lu, and plotted for the overthrow of the reformer. When Confucius saw that they had fallen away from his teachings, he retired from his post; but to the suggestion of his disciples that his principles were too rigid and he should bate them a little, he nobly replied: "A good husbandman can sow, but he cannot secure a harvest; an artisan may excel in handicraft, but he cannot provide a market for his goods; and in the same way a superior man can cultivate his principles, but he cannot make them acceptable."

It was only after frequent rebuffs, his offers of advice having

been rejected by prince after prince, that in his sixty-ninth year he realized that he should never see the accomplishment of his dream. From that time to the date of his death, he devoted himself to literary work, re-editing the ancient Chinese books, and composing "Spring and Autumn," a chronicle of his native State of Lu, the only work completely his. The other sources from which we gather the principles of the sage's teaching are the works of Mencius, "the greatest thinker and writer of the Confucian school," the "Lun Yu," a record of discourses and conversations between Confucius and his disciples; the "Hâ Hsio," or "Great Learning;" and the "Kung Yung," or "Doctrine of the Mean"—the former the work of the ablest of his immediate followers, the latter of his grandson. In the Confucian system, rewards and punishments are meted out in this life, not always to the individual but certainly to the family. "Good and evil do not wrongly befall men, but Heaven sends down misery or happiness according to their conduct." The only approach to a future reward is the prospect of having one's good name recorded in the temple of the ancestors. "To retain a place in the temple of ancestors is a sufficient witness of virtue." The highest honor his disciples could bestow upon their teacher is the veneration with which his tomb is regarded, even to the present day. It is the "resting-place of his spirit"—a temple is erected there, and sacrifices offered by thousands to his honor. From such sacrifices, whether to the supreme being or to the spirits of the dead, any idea of propitiation must be banished; they were but oblations of gratitude.

In Mrs. Boyd Carpenter's opinion, the teachings of Confucius supplied a needful phase in the evolution of religious thought. In the youth-time of religions it is the spiritual thought which receives emphasis, then the ethical; lastly the spirituality re-emerges. It has been so with Confucianism. It began with the thought of God; the sage emphasized morality, and later commentators have reverted to the spiritual. Confucius made religion a force in daily life.

A REPLY TO MAX MULLER.

THE REV. DR. ROBERT BRUCE, who has been a Church of England missionary in India and Persia for very nearly forty years, replies to Prof. Max Muller's article in *The Nineteenth Century* (see DIGEST, p. 471) in a contribution to *The Church Missionary Intelligencer*, London. In reply to Prof. Max Muller's statement that "the conscience of a Turk is quite as enlightened as that of a Christian, for he has the same idea of right and wrong as a Christian has," Dr. Bruce says: A stream of water cannot rise above its source, nor the disciple excel his master in purity of life and morals, especially when the disciple regards the master as the greatest of the prophets, and as one inspired by God to be the seal of all those who preceded him. For, though the Professor makes the astounding assertion that Mohammed considered himself to be the last, but not the greatest, of the prophets, every orthodox Moslem regards "The Prophet" as not only the last, but by far the greatest and most perfect of all the prophets. It is the universal belief of all the Ulema that the Korân is the most perfect revelation of God's will to man, that it contains all things necessary for life and godliness, and that it has abrogated all the former Scriptures, so that a Moslem is under no obligation to read any of the writings of the older prophets; that it contains a standard of morality higher than any other, and that "The Prophet" is the most perfect example to be imitated by all.

The Professor contradicts his own statement that the conscience of a Turk is as enlightened as that of a Christian, when he tells us farther on that his Mohammedan friends could not gainsay his assertion that "the high ideal of human life as realized in Christ was attained to by no other prophet." The Christian conscience is the idea of right and wrong formed in him by the Spirit of Christ setting before his eyes the high ideal of human life as realized in Christ and taught in the New Testament. The Moslem conscience is the idea of right and wrong formed in his mind by the study of the Korân and the life of Mohammed.

To the Professor's assertion that the Turk "has a strict regard for truth,"—in other words, the Mohammedan is as truthful as the Christian, the Turk or Persian as truthful as the Englishman—

Dr. Bruce rejoins "Credat Judæus Apelles, non ego." Mr. A., H.B.M.'s Representative at Teheran, lived on terms of friendship with a Persian prince. On one occasion the prince, having dined the previous night with Mr. A., was surprised by a morning visit from a friend of the latter, who told him that the Englishman challenged him to fight a duel. The prince asked what he meant, and having learned for the first time the meaning of the word duel, exclaimed, "Is Mr. A. mad?" The friend said, "No; you insulted Mr. A. last night." Prince: "How did I insult him?" Friend: "You called him a liar!" Prince: "You call that an insult! We call each other liars every day of our lives."

Dr. C. J. Wills, after a sojourn of many years in a Mohammedan land, gives his opinion in his book, "Persia as It Is," when, speaking of the friendship between Englishmen and Persians, he says, "These Oriental friends always confess that what originally attracted them to their new ally is the strange fact that an Englishman does not lie. In Persia, the great hotbed of lies and intrigues, a man who does not lie is indeed a phenomenon!"

The facts of the case are so notorious to every one who has made any lengthened sojourn among Mohammedans, that it is surely quite unnecessary to refute the statement at length.

To the Professor's statement that the Turks admire their Prophet for having *remained twenty-five years faithful to one wife, a wife a good deal older than himself*," Dr. Bruce maintains that the true reason that Mohammed remained a monogamist so long was plainly not his personal continence, but his dread of Khadija. This is no empty surmise, but a necessary conclusion from facts. He was fifty years of age and she sixty-five when she died in A.H. 9; and two months after Khadija had closed her eyes, Mohammed was married to the attractive widow Sewda, and betrothed to Ayesha, the daughter of his friend Abu Bekr, who was then only a girl of six years old, and who actually became his wife three years later.

THE UNDERGROUND PEOPLE. A NEW SECT.

THE St. Petersburg correspondent of *The London Daily Telegraph* says: The very newest thing in the religious sects of Russia is an enthusiastic community, known as the "Underground People," which has been recently started in the Government of Saratoff (Kamyschensky District), and is making new converts every day. According to these benighted but well-meaning persons, the one thing needful to salvation is to make as many underground cellars, corridors, and secret hiding-places as possible, and to conceal therein all sorts and conditions of men, who happen to be fleeing from justice or eluding the pursuit of the authorities—deserters, or the passportless, or runaways from Siberia. This looks as if the new community were a political society rather than a religious body; but, in reality, nothing is further removed from the true state of things. The "Underground People" have no political convictions; they are solicitous only for the salvation of their souls, and are in such terrible earnest about this all-important business of their earthly pilgrimage that most of them literally lay down their lives in the hope of finding them in the next world. How it is done is this: As soon as a man, woman, or child falls ill, and is compelled to take to his or her bed, the Elders are sent for. These peasants, who are unable to read or write, meet in the hut of the patient, and, having offered up a short prayer, solemnly announce that the Lord's call must be answered in a spirit of true resignation. Then the sick person is baptized anew, receiving a wholly different name, to which the epithet "Servant of God" must invariably be added. The Sectarials explain this rule by saying that if Ivan or Peter died with his old name he would stand before the Judgment Seat of God saturated with sin and infamy, and would be hurled into Hell without pity or ruth. But when he has received his new cognomen, he need fear nothing, for the Devils will hunt for Ivan or Peter, the hardened sinner, whereas his name has become, say Anthony or Alexander, the Servant of God, so that, as they will never succeed in establishing his identity, he is perfectly sure of being admitted to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Having baptized the patient, and thus given him an unsullied name, they raise him from his straw bed and carry him down to

the dark, dank, dismal chambers of horrors underground, the labyrinthine windings of which are known only to a few. There he is deposited in solemn silence, and left without food, drink, or a human companion to battle in darkness with grim Death. Meanwhile, all his relatives who were living in the same house with him move out of it for a time. After the lapse of some days, the Elders go down into the vaults and inspect the body of their newly-baptized brother. If quite dead, they dig a hole for it in the garden, in the barn-floor, or in the fields; but never in the burial-ground, as this would be fraught with terrible misfortune to the Heaven-spiced soul. Over the agonizing tortures of the miserable creatures who are thus literally buried alive, the less said the better. The Sectarials themselves dislike to touch upon the subject, and descant solely on the benefits to the soul, which they themselves in turn hope to enjoy.

The local authorities are exerting themselves to the utmost to root out this dangerous sect. But as yet they have made but little progress, for all the villages and hamlets around are positively honeycombed with underground streets and apartments, in which the guilty and lawless are hiding, and the sick and feeble are slowly dying, and it is not only very difficult to discover the secret ingress and to find one's way through the intricate windings of these contemporary catacombs, but it is exceedingly dangerous to try, as one may unexpectedly find oneself locked up in a living tomb. A physician lately managed to effect an entrance into one of these "underground temples," as they are called, and he actually discovered a cholera patient alone in the throes of death.

NOTES.

The Outlook says: "The bigotry of unbelief is as intolerable as any other bigotry. In France this truth has just been officially recognized. The Mayor of St. Denis had refused to allow a cross to be placed on a grave in the city cemetery. Appeal was taken to the Minister of Public Worship. This office is filled by M. Spüller, once a bitter anti-clericist, but now, it seems, a man of eminent good sense and moderation. He declared that it was the policy of the French Government to be tolerant and to repress acts of intolerance and fanaticism wherever found. Such an act, he considered, was this refusal to allow the symbol of a religion to be placed upon a grave."

THE REV. JAMES JOHNSTON, writing in the organ of the Christian Literature Society for India, protests against the manner in which the "Sacred Books of the East" have been edited without indication of the fact that large portions have been necessarily omitted because of their impurity. He urges that the Neo-Hinduism now characteristic of young India is based on a false idea of the primitive system. "Comparatively few," he says, "of the natives of India can read those sacred works in Sanscrit, thousands can read them in English, and the most inquiring minds and the most enlightened students can only read them in the English edition. The natives of India are deceived by supposing they are reading the complete classics of their country, when it is only an edition emasculated under the influence of Christian morality and modern taste. The recent revival of the old religions of India among educated men is based on the idea that their sacred books are pure, even when brought to the test of the Christian standard." Yet the "Yagur Vega," one of the sacred books, is so bad that it has been declared by the highest legal authority in Bombay to be a criminal offense to translate it into any living language in India; and a translator and publisher in the Punjab were fined for publishing a translation in Punjabi. The fact of abridgment should have been noted.

"THE NEW DIRECTORY FOR BAPTIST CHURCHES," by Edward T. Hiscox, D.D., is the last book prepared by him for pastors and churches. Dr. Hiscox informs his readers in his preface that when the Dictionary was issued in 1859, American Baptists numbered less than one million; now they are about three and one-half millions.

IN the Prussian Upper House, there has been, says *The London Times* correspondent, a lively debate on a Bill amending the Acts regulating the constitution of the Evangelical Church in Prussia, the most important provisions of which are the abolition of surplice fees, the restriction not only of work but also of education on Sunday, and an alteration of the ecclesiastical agenda. The debate was chiefly remarkable for a speech against the Bill by Herr von Stosch (head of the Imperial Admiralty, 1872-83), who was supported by the chief burgomasters of Berlin, Breslau, and Osnabrück. They contended that the Bill would release the clergy from their dependence on the parishes, which were the chief factors in the life of the Protestant Church, and that, in the new agenda, confession of faith was placed so much in the foreground that the less orthodox Protestants would inevitably be excluded from the fold of the Church. Herr von Stosch, indeed, went so far as to suggest that the clergy should be elected, as the burgomasters are, for twelve years, which would compel them to live in, and for, their parishes.

The Christian Commonwealth, London, says the Lightfoot trustees are anxiously looked to for any new treasures they may be able to bring out of the literary remains of the great scholar who last presided over the See of Durham. The "Biblical Essays" recently published have somewhat disappointed the very natural expectations of many ardent admirers of Dr. Lightfoot, that prince among modern English commentators.

FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

ECONOMIC PEACE BETWEEN GERMANY AND RUSSIA.

THE successful conclusion of the Commercial Treaty between Russia and Germany has been hailed by the friends of progress and international peace everywhere; but in Germany the Treaty has been fought bitterly by many different groups and interests anxious to eliminate all foreign competition. The opponents of the Treaty have not only been able to raise objections of a theoretical character, but also to make a political issue of the Treaty and to attack the Government in the Reichstag by means of combinations and threats of desertion. With us, naturally, such a conflict of opinions and interests is out of the question; the matter is irrevocably settled by the mere fact of the Government coming to a certain decision. It is clear that the Government's view of the national benefit may be erroneous, narrow, or prejudiced; the official opinions may be due to temporary influences, and the decision of to-day may clash with that of the day before, though the interests of the country are the same. Very often, private commercial interests are confounded with general national interests; and this is particularly true under a protective system, which supports selfish monopolies at the expense of the country at large. From this point of view, the Treaty with Germany represents an important step in the subordination of private interests to national interests, and therefore it is highly advantageous both to us and to Germany, notwithstanding the protests of German agrarians and Russian manufacturers. Both sides have made only such concessions as were necessary to the conclusion of the Treaty. The advantage of our Treasury Department in the conduct of the negotiations lay, not so much in the greater ease with which it could reconcile warring interests in industry, as in the possibility of quietly ignoring our differences of opinion and paying no heed to newspaper talk or the discussions of the public. These opinions are neither stable nor independent; they are easily and speedily modified in response to supposed changes on the part of official plans and designs, as our "patriotic" Press has demonstrated since the first broaching of the Treaty question, and it would be absurd to attach any significance to such ready-made views.

When the Tariff-war with Germany began, our commercial and newspaper patriots were filled with the most intense belief in and enthusiasm for our "independent economic development." They would not hear of any concessions to the Germans; the very idea seemed monstrous to them. We had, unfortunately, entered into a treaty with France in which there were concessions on our part, but that was the limit beyond which it would be ruinous to venture. The demands for concessions which Germany made were denounced as insolent, and to yield, it was said, would be a weakness bordering on cowardice. However, a spirit of compromise was soon manifested on the part of our officials, and the "insolent" demands were actually satisfied in great measure. Accordingly, the tone of our Protectionists was changed at once and their voice was lowered. The concessions that had been made, instead of being monstrous, were suddenly seen to be perfectly legitimate and safe, and the political and diplomatic considerations that had been ridiculed were found to be grave and far-reaching.

Still more curious were the sudden revolutions on the part of the daily papers. The acrobatic feats which they have had to perform in rushing from one pole to another have been marvelous. During the Tariff-war, there was an uninterrupted propaganda of hostility to other nations and countries. The war with Germany was regarded with religious ecstasy and national pride. No sooner is the war ended and a treaty of peace made than the preacher of war and aggression is converted into an adherent of peace and love; and the conversion is phenomenally sudden. In Germany, there exist definite divisions having fixed views that do not change to suit official tastes; such an active social struggle is evidence of conscious national life, whereas loud and contradictory phrases of people who do not know to-day what they will have to advocate to-morrow testify only to a hollow nature and a sham.

The Treaty compels the most extreme Nationalists to take cog-

nizance of the general conditions of civilized international dealing in Europe, of the complex and large interests which demand a constant exchange of mutual services. The principle upon which the Treaty is based is a direct negation of the ideas of distrust and hostility. The Treaty has great political significance, therefore, apart from its possible effects on industrial development. In our day, the making and ratification of economic ties between nations constitute the surest guaranty of peace. Germany would not conclude such a Treaty with Russia, for a period of ten years, if she did not feel certain of the possibility of remaining at peace with us at least during the time specified; and, similarly, there must exist on our part a belief in Germany's friendly attitude toward us. When Germany concluded her Treaty with Austria, the concessions then agreed upon were justified by urgent political considerations,—namely, the need of a closer union with the members of the Triple Alliance; now all those concessions are extended to Russia. We thus enter upon an era of peaceful neighborly relations with Germany, and leave the isolated position which we have occupied. Austria is now interested in making a Treaty with Russia on the same lines as that with Germany, in order not to incur serious loss in her international trade, and it is probable that the tariff negotiations between Russia and Austria will come to a fortunate conclusion. It is hardly open to doubt that the central-European "league of peace" loses its former vitality, that the artificial political ties are weakened, and that the Russo-German Treaty is a significant symptom of a departure in the general course of European international affairs.—*Translated and Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST from an Editorial in Viestnik Evropy, March, St. Petersburg.*

CAPRIVI AND MIQUEL.

THE Russo-German Treaty is regarded as a signal victory for Chancellor Caprivi, yet many German papers predict his speedy retirement from office. Dr. Miquel, the present Minister of Finance, is mentioned as his probable successor. Dr. Miquel is accused of secretly undermining Caprivi's prestige, and of allying himself with the defeated Agrarians. It is said that Dr. Miquel himself is responsible for the report that Caprivi, satisfied with the rank of an earl, which was conferred upon him for his success with the Army Bill in 1893, will "buy an estate and plant cabbage." Both the Finance Minister and his chief deny that there is any disagreement between them. Theodor Barth,



Caprivi and Miquel are great friends—aren't they?

—Kladderadatsch, Berlin.

in his paper, *Die Nation*, Berlin, endeavors to show that the Chancellor is not likely to resign. He says:

"To judge from the firmness hitherto shown by the Imperial Chancellor, it is not likely that he will resignedly give way to the wishes of his political opponents. Had he been afraid of the struggle, he would have retired long ago. To-day his position is much more secure than it ever was. He has given undoubted proofs of his ability as a diplomatist, and there is a marked change in public opinion. Caprivi was never markedly disliked by any party, excepting, perhaps, the Agrarian Conservatives. Even the Socialists describe him as a fair-minded man, and the opinion of all those who are engaged in trade and manufacture is voiced by the people of Danzig, who have given him the freedom of their city."

The most interesting element in the discussions on the German-Russian Commercial Treaty is the complete demoralization of the different German political parties. They seem all to have been dissolved, and political chaos rules. That state of things is no doubt dangerous.—*Nordlyset, Copenhagen.*

A CHINESE VIEW OF THE RUSSIAN TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

OUR Correspondent at Shanghai sends us the following article from a recent issue of the *Shén-pao*. He tells us that it is of special interest because it gives the views of the more liberal and enlightened Chinese officials and upper classes in regard to Russia's designs in Eastern Asia:

It does not require much wisdom or even foresight to detect that Russia, having been foiled in her ambitious designs in Europe, has naturally turned her attention Asia-ward with the same object in view—aggrandizement. The army is a *sine quâ non* for the success of Russian undertakings. For this, however, she must have railways to bring on her troops, to carry their supplies, and to connect her communications with Europe, for without them she can do nothing. We recently published a paragraph from foreign sources to the effect that Russia was making extraordinary exertions in building her trans-Siberian railway which was to connect St. Petersburg with Vladivostock, on the Chinese frontier, a distance of 5,600 miles; that there was every probability of her completing the line in seven years' time; that it would be, when completed, the longest line in the world; and that, finally, by its completion it would be a great boon to commerce in general. Granting this (from a superficial point of view) to be the case, we, on our part, must not forget that Russia's gain in the future necessarily becomes, under the circumstances, proportionally also China's peril. And shall those who have the interests of the Empire at heart look on with apathy and underestimate the vital importance of this step? Shall our Ministers be allowed willingly to permit themselves to be, as it were, whipped by those who shall have first possessed themselves of the instrument? Russia touches China at Hünts'ün (opposite Vladivostock), which becomes a door for her entrance into this Empire; if the former were to build a railway from St. Petersburg right down to Hünts'ün, then farewell to any future peaceful days to China's frontiers! And yet the Ministers at the seat of power seem to think that there is nothing to fear at the hands of Russia! It is true that it will take seven years to complete such a lengthy railway, and that an immense sum of money will have to be expended before it can ultimately be of any use to Russia; but notwithstanding these obstacles, we may rest assured that Russia intends to do it, and *will* accomplish her object. An analysis of the various aims of Russia, Great Britain, France, and the United States as regards China shows different results. The last-named three countries, for instance, aim only at expansion of trade; their desire is to make money from us, pecuniary gain is their ambition and not gain in slices of territory. On the other hand, the writer, after citing two instances how Russia was foiled by other European Powers in extending her power in the Black Sea and by England in an attempt to "coquette with Corea" when Corea was "saved from a Russian master," and, taking for granted Russia's ambition for aggrandizement, goes on to say: Granted that we have not penetrated the true designs of

Russia, does it also follow then that we ought not to be prepared for any contingency? Again, what sort of preparation has our Government made after all?

The answer is given in a few words: An extra dozen or so of disciplined battalions and a few thousand stand of rifles with an extra battery or two of field-guns! A lot of gasconade has been recently uttered, informing the Throne that "extra contributions to the military exchequer of the Northeast provinces have been arranged sufficient for the defense of the country;" but what, comparing the preparations of Russia with our own puny efforts, we would like to know, will be the good of all this? What substantial advantages can be expected from them in the case of troops as much cut off from succor and the world as the hermit in the mountains? The only remedy lies in the laying of a through line from our base of supplies to the fortified city of Hünts'ün, in order that, when the time comes, troops may be transported by our railways to the frontiers for their protection against the enemy. Some say, Would not this be merely building a railway for our enemies' benefit? It is therefore far better to have no railways than to have them with such a contingency in view.

If the fear that the enemy might capture our railways has prevented the building of them, let us answer by asking the question, Can the Admiralty guarantee that the costly cruisers and ironclads belonging to our fleets will never be captured by an enemy? If our fleets be captured would not the excuse made above have the same application?

ANARCHISM.

A RECENT number of the *Freiheit*, New York, contains a summary of the creed and aspirations of the Anarchist. The paper is signed "Elisée Reclus." But this is probably "taking in vain" the name of the great geographer and Brussels professor. The article runs as follows:

People call us Revolutionists because we love justice and perceive the injustice which reigns everywhere.

The fruits of labor are divided in an inverse ratio. The idler has all the privileges, including that of starving his industrious fellow-man. Men who call themselves priests have a right to pretend that they can do wonders. Persons known as kings and nobles have a right to pretend that they are of better clay than their fellow-men, who must submit to be killed at their pleasure. Persons in black gowns, called judges, condemn the poor, and permit the rich to escape justice. Traders deal out poison instead of wholesome food, and become honored capitalists. The owner of the greatest money-bag is the master of all. Because we oppose all this we are hated and prosecuted.

We perceive that, slowly but surely, a change is coming in all this, and we try to hasten this change.

Shall we unite in bands, of which one is subject to the other? Shall we consent to be tools in the hands of chiefs and masters? No! To be an Anarchist means to be a man who acts in accordance with his own personal rights and duties. We do not wish to be any one's slave, any one's master. We wish to be free from the control of the State, we will have no masters. To make the existence of a Government needless we deny the need of moral laws. There is no immorality where there is no teaching of morals.

But we are not only Anarchists, and thus enemies of all rule; we are also International Communists, because we know that life is impossible without social co-operation. Isolated, we can do nothing; united, we can reform the whole world. We combine, therefore, as free men, who are moved by one common accord. Neither religious intolerance nor national hatred can disturb our harmony, for the study of nature is our only religion, and the whole world our fatherland. All State boundaries must vanish, all property-rights must cease.

It is not our duty to explain how the society of the future will appear. We will begin by dividing the riches of those who rob the poor; and as long as injustice exists in the world, we International Anarchists will continue to combat it!—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

Pietro Gori, in *La Sera*, Milan, declares that the number of Anarchists in that city cannot be less than five thousand. They



How the Anarchists love Justice.—*Deutsche Wespen, Berlin.*

are quietly preparing for a social revolution, quietly making new converts every day. In this they are eminently assisted by the women.

La Correspondenza Verda, Rome, comments very violently upon the trials of the prisoners who were arrested during the uprisings in Sicily and the Carrara districts. Four hundred and thirty-seven men have been sentenced to an aggregate of 1,750 years. "Seventeen centuries and a half!" exclaims the paper bitterly, "and that during the reign of those Cæsars who guaranteed perfect liberty to the Italian people, if United Italy once became an accomplished fact."

The St. Petersburg *Zeitung* advises the Governments of Europe to combat Anarchism with the most draconic severity. If the death-penalty and execution by the guillotine do not instil fear into the bombthrowers, they should be broken on the wheel, quartered, slowly roasted to death over a fire. Such punishment might prove to be more effective.

Henri Rochefort, in his paper *L'Intransigant*, Paris, demands leniency for the Anarchists on the grounds that bloodshed begets retaliation.

AFFAIRS IN ITALY.

IT is quite apparent that the Radical Party in Italy is determined to do everything in its power to obstruct Signor Crispi's policy; but the sympathy shown by the Radicals to the Revolutionaries throughout Italy has turned public sentiment against them. The Premier experiences great difficulty in arranging the finances of the country. The Treasury is empty, and the new taxes proposed by Baron Sonnino are extremely unpopular, especially the increase of the salt-tax, which falls most heavily on the poorer people. The Press throughout the country expresses a doubt that the enormous sums necessary to re-establish the financial equilibrium of the country can be raised during the present times of general depression.

La Italia, Rome, says: "There is a spirit of unrest among the members of the Chamber. The Deputies are not willing to follow the lead of Signor Crispi: Zanardelli holds sway over a large group; and Biancheri, the old friend of Depretis, leads another. Only the restless condition of the nation forces the House to support the present Government."

Il Secolo, Milan, calls the situation "grave, even desperate." To demand a duty of 40 per cent. on salt, the only condiment of the poor, is alike unjust and cruel. But, even at this enormous sacrifice, even by doubling the salt-tax, Baron Sonnino is not likely to succeed in bettering the finances of the country. National bankruptcy can hardly be averted, for the credit of the country

is almost lost abroad. And then: Are the rulers certain that the long-suffering public will forever go on bearing its heavy load? The Government may soon be forced to acknowledge its inability to meet its obligations.

La Tribuna, Rome, declares that the protests which some of the parties in the Chamber made against the arbitrary measures of the Ministry have been received with approval throughout the country. The position of the Crispi Cabinet is not at all secure, and its downfall may be accomplished by the same issues that raised it to power.

La Fanfulla, Rome, characterizes the financial reforms proposed by Signor Sonnino as simply horrible, and says the Italian people will not adopt them. To demand a hundred millions from an impoverished nation, before the Ministry has the courage to reduce the Military Budget, is simply preposterous, because the expense of the Army is one of the main causes of the financial crisis.

Il Messaggero, Rome, brings an article from the pen of the noted Socialist Deputy, Napoleone Colejanni, who strongly denounces the policy of the Government in adhering to the Triple Alliance. "Italy has not signed a Treaty which obliges her to keep up her present enormous army in defense of Germany. The King alone is responsible for this deplorable state of things. The Nation bears this terrible burden to defend the interests of a useless dynasty." The paper also refers to a pamphlet issued by the Chamber of Commerce, in which a commercial disaster is depicted unless a Reciprocity Treaty is concluded with France.

Tiger Island, New Guinea.—Captain Dallman, writing from Friedrich-Wilhelms Hafen, reports to the *Deutsche Geographische Blätter*, Berlin, his discovery of Tiger Island, placed on maps about eighty nautical miles to the north of Berlin Hafen. On previous occasions Captain Dallman was unable to find the island, owing to its position being incorrectly given. It lies approximately in latitude 1° 45' S. and 142° 7' E. longitude. It is nearly six miles square, and is thickly peopled with a fine race of light color. They seem unacquainted with the use of iron, and they do not chew betel. The island is low and appears to be densely wooded; on the coast, and perhaps in the interior, are plantations of taro, yams, and bananas. The island Matty, placed on the same parallel but in longitude 142° 55' E., could not be found, and Captain Dallman believes it to be identical with Tiger Island.

NOTES.

MASS-MEETINGS of workmen have been held in the Austrian capital. Most of the speakers insisted upon the necessity of obtaining the universal suffrage in Austria. The Bills proposed by Toaffe and Windischgratz were severely criticized. Preparations will be made for demonstrations on May-Day.

THE Vatican has sent formal notices to the Archbishops of Bologna, Milan, and Ferrara, Monsignor Segna, the Assessor of the Congregation of the Holy Office, and Father Steinhuber, the famous Bavarian Jesuit, that at the next consistory they will be elevated to the rank of Cardinal. One Spanish and one French prelate will also be created Cardinals.

THE general elections ordered by the Dutch Government to ascertain the country's opinion on the suffrage question have resulted in the defeat of the Conservatives, and the Press declares that universal suffrage will be accepted during the next session of the Chambers.

THE riots at Valencia, during the embarkation of 1,400 pilgrims on their voyage to Rome, are regarded as manifestations of the anti-clerical opinions of the inhabitants in the larger cities.

THE German Socialists are making preparations for monster demonstrations on May-Day. The Government has warned its employees that they will be discharged if they march in the Socialist processions.

GENERAL BARON SCHONFELD, a confidential friend of the Austrian Emperor, and Commander of the First Army Corps, has created a sensation by a speech which is regarded as a threat against the Socialists. He said: "When the Bourgeoisie shall be forced to defend the existence of society and to fight for the possession of their hard-earned property, the army will come to their aid and save them."

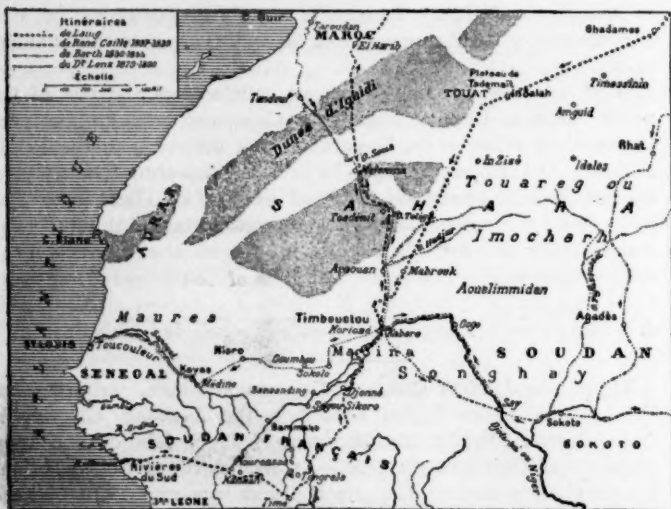
MR. JOHN MORLEY, Secretary for Ireland, moved in the House of Commons the first reading of the Registration Bill. The measure provides for a half-yearly registration, with a three-months' residence qualification, and that all elections shall take place on the same day. If possible, the elections should always take place on Saturday. Mr. Morley's motion passed by a vote of 208 to 166.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TIMBUCTOO.

COMMANDANT MONTE L, who recently returned from the French West African possessions, has published a remarkable article in the *Revue de Paris*, Paris, in which he vents his opinions about Timbuctoo and the Tuaregs. He arrives at the following conclusions:

From a political point of view, the importance of the French possessing a city in such a central position cannot be overrated. From the trader's point of view it must be admitted that the decline of Timbuctoo has reached its lowest level, for the Soudan is



improving as a market for European manufacturers, and Timbuctoo is the proper trade-center. From the point of view of the Tuaregs, the loss of the city is much to be deplored. It is a fearful blow to the influence of these people, for they derived their income mainly by plundering the caravans crossing the Sahara. The French are masters of Timbuctoo, and must keep it. The honor of the French flag demands it!

The city of Timbuctoo has for two centuries been so renowned in Europe that it has during all that time attracted the curiosity of Europeans. It has always been considered one of the most commercial cities of Africa, and Mussulman fanaticism, which has constantly kept Christians out of it, appears to have given it the character of a holy city. With the aid of the imagination, it has loomed up as the great metropolis of interior Africa, and the importance of this mysterious center of Soudan has easily been exaggerated. As it happens, however, Timbuctoo is not distinguished for its extent, or for the large number of its inhabitants, or for the beauty of its site, or for the costliness of its buildings. The city which people like to represent as so populous and so rich, says Colonel Gallieni, is at present only a big village. Nevertheless it is true that Timbuctoo, by its proximity to the great elbow of the Niger and to the borders of the Sahara, is the principal station for the caravans which go from North Africa to the Soudan, and that it is the storehouse and mart for the products of a part of Africa.



RENE GAILLIE (1799-1839).

About the year 1630, a French sailor, Paul Imbert, captured by the Arabs in consequence of a shipwreck, was sold as a slave and taken to Timbuctoo. He died at Morocco before an expedition under the French commandant, Razilly, could restore him to liberty. It is said also that another sailor, one Adams, of the United States, saw Timbuctoo in 1810, as likewise an English sailor, Rilley, in 1815. The African Association founded at London in 1788, to carry on the work of exploration in Africa, sent from Gambia, in the direction of

Timbuctoo, Major Houghton, who was killed by the natives in 1791. The famous United States traveler, John Ledyard, was sent by the same Association from the Nile and Lucas from Tripoli, but both explorers failed to reach Timbuctoo. The Scotch Mungo Park passed by the port of Kabard; but being attacked by the Tuaregs, he could not enter Timbuctoo.

It was a Frenchman, René Caillié, who was the first to bring us a description of Timbuctoo. Caillié was born at Mauge on the 19th of September, 1799. Having a taste for travel, he tried, without resources or any adequate preparation, to win the prize of 10,000 francs offered by the Geographical Society of Paris to the explorer who should reach Timbuctoo. By courage and perseverance, and after sufferings and privations of every kind, he arrived on the 11th of March, 1828, at Djenne, whence he descended the Niger in a boat as far as Kabara, the port of Timbuctoo. He had acquired Arabic and Arabian manners and passed himself off for a Mussulman. He feigned to have been carried away by the French when very young and taken to Senegal, whence he had run away in order to get back to his native land. Being considered an unfortunate pilgrim, he was allowed to sojourn at Timbuctoo. He wrote his notes in some sheets of the Koran. He was able to get away from the city by a caravan and reached Tangiers, where he fell ill and died. His notes, however, reached the President of the Geographical Society. Twenty-five years after Caillié, the German explorer, Heinrich Barth, reached Timbuctoo, where he was received as a Mussulman.

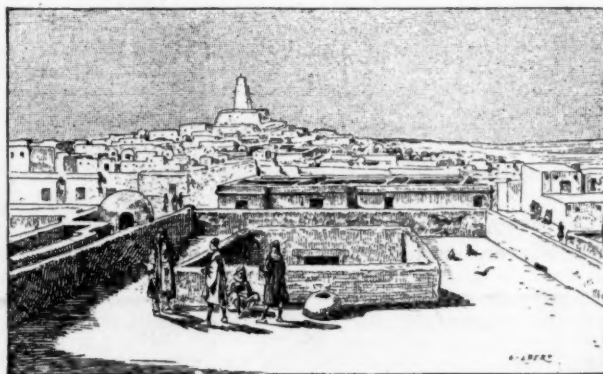
After the departure of Barth, but a single European was able to reach Timbuctoo. That was Oscar Lenz, who arrived at the Holy City in July, 1880, and remained there eighteen months. He was the last European to see Timbuctoo before the recent taking possession of the town by the French.

The name of the great city of the Soudan has been variously written at various times. The name Timbuctoo is due to the Arabs and means "the well of Buctoo." The word *tim* is found in a great number of places in the Sahara.

The exact position of Timbuctoo, according to M. Caron, is latitude 16° 49' N.; longitude 5° 12' W. It is distant from the



HEINRICH BARTH (1821-1865).



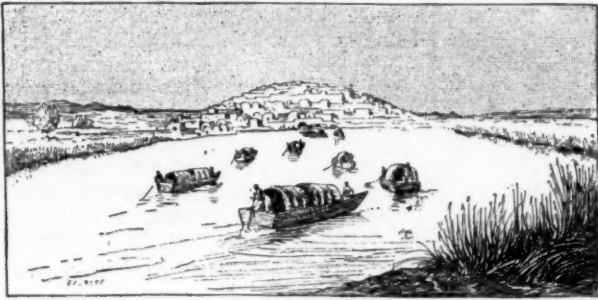
TIMBUCTOO FROM THE TERRACES.

Niger about ten miles. It is built in the form of a triangle in the middle of a vast plain, which is often under water in the rainy season. The stagnant pools formed at that season render the region unhealthy. The town is made up of a labyrinth of terraced houses and cottages with pointed roofs surmounted by a pyramidal tower of clay. The mosques are five in number. The most important of them are about thirty-three feet high, with a minaret or two about fifty feet high. The town is entirely open and accessible by two large arteries which cut it in the form of a cross, the broadest running from east to west, and the narrower from north to south.

The population of Timbuctoo has been very variously esti-

mated. It probably does not exceed 20,000 or 25,000 souls of very mixed blood. The current language is Bambara, a dialect differing little from that spoken in Upper Senegal.

Between Timbuctoo and the river is the port of Kabara. It is situated, Barth tells us, on the slope of a sandy hill very regularly rounded. He estimated the population at 2,000. You can go in three hours from Kabara to Timbuctoo. The country be-

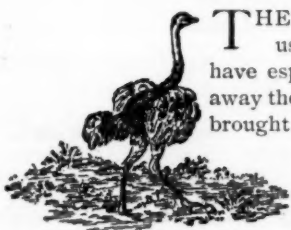


VIEW OF KABARA.

tween the two is a desert. At Timbuctoo, as in its suburbs, vegetation is exceedingly poor.

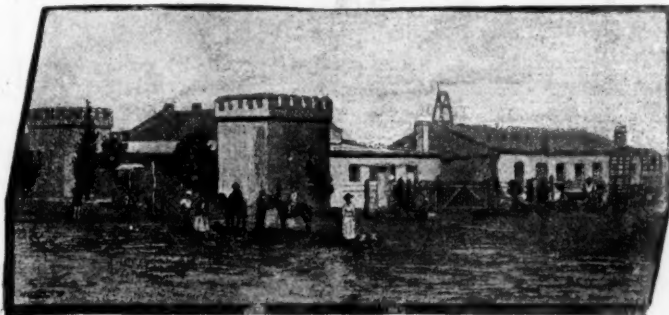
Timbuctoo of itself has neither commerce nor industry, but from time immemorial it has been an important market and one of the principal centers of business in Western Soudan. It is the point at which converge, across the Sahara, a great number of caravan routes. It may be considered as a storehouse, as an intermediate point for the sale or exchange of merchandise coming from different parts of Africa and even Europe. Caravans from Europe bring among other merchandise, cloths and cottonades, sugar, and candles. Among the products exported from Timbuctoo to Europe are ostrich-feathers, gum, and a little gold.—*Gustave Regelsperger, in the Revue Encyclopedique, Paris, March 1. Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

OSTRICH-FARMING.



THE feathers of the ostrich have been in use for centuries in South Africa; they have especially been used as fans to drive away the mosquitos. Fashion, however, has brought them into much use in Europe and thus raised their value. A new industry has consequently arisen, and the breeding of these birds for their feathers has become a branch of farming unique in character. In the Cape Colony several millions of pounds are invested in it.

The ostrich was first introduced into the United States for breeding-purposes in 1882. Years ago the attention of the then Commissioner of Agriculture was called to this industry, and though he tried to interest the Government in the enterprise, nothing came of such efforts. In 1882, a troop of 200 picked ostriches were started from Cape Town on their way to North



INCUBATOR-HOUSE, HEATHERTON TOWERS, S. A.

America. Only 22 arrived alive in California, their final destiny, and were at once located on the ranch of the California Ostrich Company at Anaheim. Another company, the American Ostrich

Company, was organized in Maine about the same time. This company succeeded in bringing 23 birds to the Valley San Luis Rey in California, where they established the second ostrich-farm in the United States. There are now several ostrich-farms in California, and four of them are breeding-camps. The imported birds have suffered much from the acclimation process, but they have survived, and the success of the pioneer enterprise was such as to encourage similar ventures at other points. It is yet too early to say whether ostrich-farming will be a pronounced success in the United States or not.

In 1865, there were no more than 80 tame ostriches in South Africa. Ten years later there were 32,000. The leading ostrich-farm in Cape Colony is Heatherton Towers. This extensive and well-managed farm extends over 3,000 acres and is surrounded by wire fences. It is stocked with more than 200 ostriches.

The two essential points in ostrich-farming are free spaces and good fences. The soil must be rich in alkalies. Sheds are needed for shelter from cold and wet, also for hatching. A female ostrich lays eggs on alternate days, and about 14 in all, but if one is taken out of the nest, she will continue laying until she has produced twenty to thirty eggs before she thinks of hatching them. Artificial hatching is largely carried on at Cape Town.

The feathers are cut three times in two years. A full-grown ostrich yields about one pound of feathers; ninety to one hundred feathers go to the pound. The value of one pound is at Port



TROOP OF OSTRICHES.

Elizabeth £40 to £50. The annual export of ostrich-feathers from South Africa amounts to about £2,000,000.—*Dansk Maanedskrift, Copenhagen. Translated and Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

The British Navy.—The comparative decline of Great Britain's naval strength among the Powers of Europe, and the vital necessity of her recovering her erstwhile superiority at sea, are subjects to which *Blackwood's*, Edinburgh, March, devotes a thirteen-page article. It appears to be generally recognized that if, in the course of a great war, England's navy fail to protect her commerce at sea, she will be exposed to national starvation. Under these circumstances the writer urges that probably the most short-sighted and expensive policy which Great Britain can pursue is to keep her navy just abreast of, or even a little ahead of the navies of the two Powers which, it seems not improbable, may at no distant day be arrayed against her. By far the wisest, and, in the long run, the cheapest policy for her to pursue is, he contends, to put forth her full power of ship-building at once, to largely increase the *personnel* of the navy, both men and officers, and to show all competitors, once for all, that rivalry is useless. The writer urges very forcibly and decidedly that if Great Britain were defeated at sea, the Empire would be dissolved, the Colonies and India lost, and England herself sink into a third-rate agricultural country. Unfortunately for England, the masses who rule the country, whose well-being is wrapped up in her continued supremacy, neither understand nor care to learn the conditions under which they are supplied with work and food. They do not realize that loss of empire means national extinction.

DAVID DUDLEY FIELD.

RARELY has the death of a man in his ninetieth year caused so much surprise as that of David Dudley Field, who expired at the home of his daughter-in-law in New York City on Friday morning, April 14. On the previous Wednesday he had returned from a journey in Europe, declared himself to be in perfect health, with every prospect of living for some years. He appears to have caught cold on the day of his arrival, and the cold developed into pneumonia, which an old heart-trouble that had existed for a score of years made it impossible to arrest.



DAVID DUDLEY FIELD.

Born February 13, 1805, Mr. Field was of good New England stock. His family has lived in New England since 1830. His grandfather was a Captain during the Revolutionary War. His father, for whom he was named, was a Congregationalist minister of respectable rank. The eldest of ten children, Mr.

Field obtained a fair education and was for a time a student of Williams College, although it is doubtful whether he graduated. Inclined to the law, he got a place in the office of Mr. Harman's Bleeker, a distinguished lawyer of Albany. After a few months he removed to the city of New York and procured a modest position with Henry and Robert Sedgwick of the bar of this city. The Sedgwicks were enthusiastically in favor of law-reform, especially in practice, and from his connection with them he imbibed a zeal for law-reform which lasted to the end of his life.

While attending diligently to his practice, the young lawyer attracted attention by ventilating in the daily Press and in pamphlets his opinions about law-reform. In the Constitution of New York, framed in 1846, there was a provision that three Commissioners be appointed "to revise, reform, simplify, and abridge the rules of practice forms and proceedings of the courts of record" of this State. The word "code" does not occur in the Constitution. Under this provision, Messrs. Arphaxad Loomis, David Graham, and Nicholas Hill, all eminent lawyers, were appointed. After a few months, Mr. Hill resigned, and his place Mr. Field managed to secure, through the intervention of his friends. The Commissioners concluded to recommend two Codes, one of Civil, the other of Criminal, Procedure. These two Codes were submitted to the Legislature on January 1, 1850, and both of them, especially the Code of Civil Procedure, were violently opposed, as revolutionary and quite beyond the powers of the Commission, by the more experienced members of the Bar. Nevertheless the Code of Civil Procedure was promptly enacted by the Legislature. The Code of Criminal Procedure had to wait more than thirty years for recognition, since it did not become law until 1880. By subsequent amendments to the Constitution of 1846, Commissioners were appointed to prepare a Penal Code, a Political Code, and a Code of the whole body of law in this State. Mr. Field was appointed on all these commissions, and the various Codes were prepared and submitted to the Legislature. The Penal and Political Codes have become law, but against the Civil Code the Bar of the State has resolutely set its face. The proposed Civil Code is regarded as simply a source of endless litigation, as an attempt to substitute for the pliable Common Law a cast-iron statute, the meaning of which, in consequence of the uncertainty of human language, it would take a century to settle.

Mr. Field, having done everything in his power for the cause of codification in this State, sighed for more worlds of codification to conquer, and turned his attention to a Code of International Law. His efforts in that direction have been regarded

with favor in England, which he has visited more than once in furtherance of such a scheme, and where his only daughter resides.

Mr. Field's labors in the cause of codification have received stronger approval outside of the State in which he resided so long than they have in it. His Code of Civil Procedure has been adopted by twenty-four States and that of Criminal Procedure by eighteen States and Territories. Two of the States have enacted his Civil Code, while his labors have been spoken of with approbation in Great Britain and many of her colonies, in India and in Japan.

The three brothers of Mr. Field are well known: Stephen T. Field, for the last quarter of a century a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; the late Cyrus W. Field, whose name will be inseparably connected with the first ocean-cable between the United States and Great Britain, and Henry M. Field, for many years Editor of *The New York Examiner*.

The New York Sun says that "the name of David Dudley Field is more widely known than that of any other American lawyer of our day whose distinction is wholly due to work done in his profession." In the opinion of *The New York Times* the labors of Mr. Field in behalf of codification were "of great and lasting benefit." *The New York Tribune* says of him: "It might not be universally conceded that he was the greatest of contemporary advocates or even jurists; but that he exerted a greater and more lasting influence in modifying and reforming the judicial systems of the United States and England than any man of his time will scarcely be denied."

EUROPE'S DEBTS.

IT is almost impossible to grasp the tremendous sum of the aggregate debts of Europe. They amount to over 105,550 million marks, or 295.35 marks per head of population. This average, however, appears very different in the several countries. According to the latest statistics, France leads. The amounts owed by the several Governments in 1893 were:

Million marks.		Million marks.	
France.....	35,633	Austria-Hungary.....	13,371
Russia.....	14,650	Italy.....	11,456
Great Britain.....	13,709	Germany.....	11,000

Some of the smaller countries of Europe have very large debts per head of population; and France heads this list, also.

Debts per head in marks.		Debts per head in marks.	
France.....	774.51	Italy.....	375.00
Portugal.....	544.10	Great Britain.....	356.70
Holland.....	397.02	Austria-Hungary.....	323.29

These States all exceed the European average of 295.35 marks per capita. Next follow:

Belgium.....	280.76	Germany.....	223.60
Spain.....	279.65	Russia.....	149.79
Greece.....	267.07		

This table nevertheless fails to give a perfect idea of the economical condition of these several countries, as it does not enable us to tell how much of the debt is non-productive. Thus, in Germany, over fifty per cent. of the debt has been expended in railways, canals, and other public works which return a handsome profit.—*Kieler Zeitung, Kiel, Germany. Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

Tobacco Insanity.—The French Government, recognizing the deteriorating influence of tobacco upon the young, has prohibited its use by students in the public schools. The Swiss Government will not tolerate that tobacco be sold to juniors. Boys found smoking in the streets are now promptly arrested and punished. Punishment is also meted out to those who sell them tobacco. Dr. Bremer of St. Vincent's Institution for the Insane, at St. Louis, has called attention to the fact that tobacco-smoking by the young produces mental and moral deterioration, while in older persons it produces brain-disease and insanity. He cites Kant's obscure style and Carlyle's irascibility as effects produced by tobacco. In view of the many facts which lately have been brought up against tobacco, it is strange that the medical profession is not unanimous in its opposition to the weed.—*Dansk Maanedskrift, Copenhagen.*

THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

Except in the items of American Tobacco and Sugar, transactions on the Stock Exchange were extremely sluggish throughout the week, but in spite of heavy pressure from the Bears, holders were firm enough to resist any marked decline. But, although money is easy, the general public still holds aloof from stock-transactions. The firmness of holders may be accepted as one of many signs of returning confidence. There is a more hopeful feeling abroad, a tendency to regard the crisis as past. It is perhaps difficult to assign an adequate reason for such returning confidence, although the greatest exhaustion of surplus stocks which has necessarily followed a partial suspension of industry has doubtless played an important part. But whatever the cause, the return of confidence itself is the most important factor in inaugurating a return of prosperity. Perhaps the most serious obstacle to renewed activity is the uncertainty as to the fate of the Tariff Bill. But it is not all smooth sailing. The promise of abundant crops held out ten days ago has been seriously marred by the heavy rains which have fallen in the interior. At the same time, the reports of heavy supplies in London have carried prices down. The renewal of gold-exports on a large scale is also disquieting, and several serious strikes have impeded industrial progress.

RAILWAY-EARNINGS.

The *Financial Chronicle* computes gross earnings of 82 railroads for the fourth week of March at \$8,806,220, a decrease of \$1,433,462, or 14 per cent., as compared with the corresponding week in 1893; 129 roads report for the month of March, \$39,141,981, a decrease of \$5,877,414, or 13.05 per cent.; 128 roads report for the quarter ending March 31, \$108,371,710, a decrease of \$15,886,412, or 12.78 per cent.; 45 roads report for the first week of April, \$4,042,183, a decrease of \$622,235, or 13.34 per cent.

FOREIGN TRADE.

The imports for the week, exclusive of specie, were \$8,398,794, of which amount \$1,436,992 was in dry-goods and the remainder in general merchandise. The imports of specie were \$548,972, and the exports of specie were \$4,481,143. In London, bar silver was quoted on Saturday at 29d. per oz.

The receipts from customs for the week were \$2,232,142, and from internal revenue, \$2,695,374, a total of \$4,927,516, against \$5,258,047 last week. The receipts for the month to date are \$11,267,470, and for the fiscal year to date \$234,384,855. The expenditures for the month to date are \$14,915,000, and for the fiscal year to date \$293,464,412.

The condition of the Treasury at the close of business to-day compares with that of last Saturday as follows:

	April 7.	April 14.
Total available assets.....	\$794,838,280	\$794,756,740
Current liabilities.....	665,631,269	668,153,694
Total balance.....	\$129,207,016	\$126,603,046
Gold balance.....	105,675,704	106,138,869
Currency balance.....	\$23,531,792	\$20,464,177

Included in to-day's assets are \$18,518,211 fractional silver and minor coins, and \$11,156,753 deposits in national banks. Bonds held to secure the last item, \$14,861,000. The Treasury holds \$9,910,228 national bank-notes for redemption against \$10,379,347 last Saturday.

COTTON.

The statistical position of cotton, as stated by the *Chronicle*, is as follows:

	This Week.	Last Week.	Last Year.
Visible supply.....	4,000,001	4,045,518	3,896,337
Of which Amer- ican.....	3,360,801	3,456,318	3,369,147
Crop in sight.....	6,904,205	6,844,479	6,113,834
Came in sight during week..	59,726	58,437	59,196
Plantation deliv- eries.....	36,698	33,655	31,373

The sales fell to a lower point than for many weeks past.

JOHN MOST says he is tired of this country, and he does not know where to rest his weary head. Why does he not try to get a snug corner in the place the existence of which is doubted by Bob Ingersoll?—*Freie Presse, Chicago.*

LEGAL.

Trial by Jury in Italy.

WHEN trial by jury was first introduced into Italy, the Italians were congratulated on having acquired an institution of which they would have reason to be proud, and one which would, especially in criminal cases, give true expression to justice and right, as distinguished from the technicalities of law.

In the early days of the introduction of the institution, a man accused of homicide, which he did not deny, was tried at a Court of Assizes in Piedmont. The presiding judge told the jury in what form they must bring in their verdict. The jury retired. On voting, four members declared their verdict to be "Yes or no." These were counted as in favor of the accused, and, to the surprise of the judge and every other person, the verdict was "Not guilty." The judge reprimanded the jury in severe terms for such a verdict. One of the four jurymen defended the conduct of himself and his three colleagues by saying: "You yourself told us that we must answer the questions you informed us we had to pass on by answering yes or no; and we have done so."

This, of course, was a case of crass ignorance; but a verdict rendered by a jury, in Rome itself, in a quite recent case, would seem to indicate that the Italian jury has not improved much as years have rolled by.

The case was as follows: A young man belonging to a rich family loved to distraction a young girl, but his parents refused their consent—necessary under the Italian law—to a marriage, which would have legitimated what marriage ought to have preceded. The young people, rendered desperate, resolved to have done with life and commit suicide together. To carry out this project, they went into the country. There the young man dictated to the girl a farewell letter to her parents which she signed. Then he got out his revolver and coolly killed her. After this, courage failed. Instead of killing himself, as he had agreed with his paramour, he left the place of the crime, and went to the priest of the neighboring parish of St. Agnes, to whom he told what had occurred. Following the advice of the priest, the murderer gave himself up to the authorities. He was tried for his act, and on the trial coolly told the jury what has just been narrated.

His counsel, who was a sharp fellow, maintained, not that the accused was irresponsible, although he admitted that his client's mind was ill-balanced, but that he had simply lent aid to a person who had committed suicide, and suicide in Italy is not a crime.

The verdict of the jury was, first, that the accused was not guilty because his mind was disordered, and, second, that there were extenuating circumstances in his case. The presiding judge did not know at first what to think of such a verdict. After considering it a little, he pointed out to the jury that the different parts of their verdict were inconsistent with each other, and directed them to withdraw again and bring in a verdict which, if not reasonable as a matter of justice, should at least be so as a matter of logic.

The jury withdrew and, after deliberating an hour, brought in a verdict of not guilty. The only thing left for the judge to do, in order to satisfy his sense of justice, was to sentence the assassin to four months' imprisonment for carrying arms prohibited by the law.

What are we to think of such a verdict? Of course, we do not know what arguments convinced the jury of the propriety of their conclusion. We know, however, the reasoning of the counsel, which ran somehow in this way:

In law there is a Latin axiom, which may be thus translated: An injury cannot be done to a person who receives it willingly and knowingly. I want to kill myself; it is a crime before God, but in regard to it men have at the present day different ideas. If then my action is not reprehensible in the eye of the law, if it is legal, not only may I kill myself, but I may ask some one to act as executioner. To justify this last position we have another Latin law axiom, which can be thus turned into English: Whatever any one can do himself, he can have done for him by another. This is the general theory of mandate and mandator. To our mind,

if the legitimacy of suicide be admitted, there is nothing to prevent a person who desires to shuffle off this mortal coil from availing himself of the services of a friend, as in China and Japan.

I do not know whether the Roman jurors who, on the 11th of December last, passed on the case which has just been described, reasoned in the fashion above suggested or not. They may have thought that the young man was out of his mind, and therefore not responsible for his acts. In either case, they have furnished an argument against the institution of trial by jury.

Twenty-four years ago, a well-known Italian critic published a severe condemnation of trial by jury. In reprinting his *brochure* quite recently, he added: "In reading again these pages at a distance of twenty years, I do not find a syllable I wish to recall. On the contrary, the warnings I uttered in 1870 have been fully justified by the facts."—*Cosmos, Paris, March 24. Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

J. B. Q., ASTORIA, OREG.—I have a volume containing a number of speeches delivered at the time of the death of President Lincoln. One of these is by Schuyler Colfax, then Speaker of the House, who, in the course of the speech, says of Lincoln, "From the top round of Fame's ladder he stepped to the sky." Was that fine conceit original with Colfax?

No. Colfax conveyed it from N. P. Willis, who, in some lines on "The Death of Harrison," the President, has:

"Let us weep in our darkness, but weep not for him!
Not for him who ascended Fame's ladder so high
From the round at the top he has stepped to the sky."

W. W., MOBILE, ALA.—Who first called Great Britain "a snug little island"?

Thomas Dibdin (1771-1841), who, in a poem entitled "The Snug Little Island," says:

"Oh, it's a snug little island,
A right little, tight little island."

K. R., HORNELLSVILLE, N. Y.—Who was Parsley Peel?

The first Sir Robert Peel (1750-1830), the father of the statesman. He was so called from the great quantity of printed calico with the parsley-leaf pattern manufactured by him.

L. A. G., ELKTON, MD.—Was there ever a Parliament known as "The Running Parliament"?

Yes, in Scotland, so nicknamed because it was continually shifted from place to place.

V. B. P., CYNTHIANA, KENTUCKY.—What sort of a coin is a bob?

Bob is a colloquial nickname in England for a shilling. It is thought to be a corruption of the Scotch *bawbee*.

B. W., CATTELSBURG, KY.—(1) What was the population of the city of Sodom when it was destroyed? (2) How many were destroyed altogether in the so-called destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah? (3) Please tell me what you can of the population of the destroyed section.

(1) The census-office was destroyed at the same time with the city. The population was less than that of London. (2) More or less than 81,000. (3) We know so much about the population of the destroyed section that we have not room to give it all.

J. B., BUSICK, VA.—Will you please tell me in the column of "Queries and Answers," in THE LITERARY DIGEST, the name of the author of the following quotation:

"'Tis liberty alone that gives the flower
Of fleeting life its luster and perfume."

We do not place these lines.

R. M., TATE, GA.—I heard it stated recently that there is a house in New York City built on five feet of ground. Will you please inform me through THE LITERARY DIGEST if this be true?

We know of no such house. Under the building-laws, the walls would occupy the greater part of the five feet, leaving no space to walk between.

CHESS.

The Championship Match.

LASKER WINS THE NINTH GAME.



After a week's rest the championship match was resumed in Philadelphia on Saturday, April 14. Lasker, having the opening, again selected a Ruy Lopez, and again Steinitz played 3 P-Q 3.

The game is:

NINTH GAME—RUY LOPEZ.

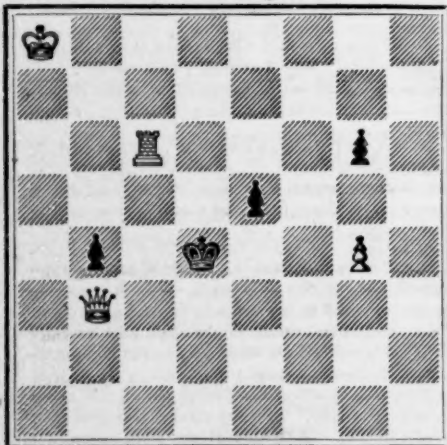
LASKER. White.	STEINITZ. Black.	LASKER. White.	STEINITZ. Black.
1 P-K 4	P-K 4	26 B-R 3	P-Kt 4
2 Kt-K B 3	Kt-Q B 3	27 R-Q 5	R-Kt 3
3 B-Kt 5	P-Q 3	28 K-Kt 5	P-Kt 5
4 Kt-B 3	P-Q R 3	29 K-R 5	R-R 3 ch
5 B-B 4	B-K 3	30 K x P	P-R 4
6 B x B	P x B	31 R-Q	R x R
7 P-Q 4	P x P	32 R x R	P x P
8 Kt x P	Kt x Kt	33 P x P	R-R
9 Q x Kt	Kt-K 2	34 K-Kt 6	R-K Kt
10 B-Kt 5	Kt-B 3	35 K x P	R-Kt 7
11 B x Q	Kt x Q	36 P-R 4	R-R 7
12 Castles Q R	Kt-K 4	37 K-B 6	B x P
13 Kt x Kt	P x Kt	38 R x P ch	K-B 2
14 B x P	R x P	39 K-Q 5	B-B 3
15 B-Kt 5	B-K 2	40 R-Q 7 ch	K-Kt 3
16 P-Q B 3	K-B 2	41 K-K 6	P-R 5
17 K-B 2	K-R 2	42 R-Q	P-R 6
18 K-Kt 3	Q-R 5	43 R-Kt ch	R-Kt 7
19 P-B 3	R-R 3	44 R x R ch	P x R
20 B-Q 4	P-K Kt 3	45 B-B 5	B-Q
21 R-Q 3	K-K	46 P-Kt 4	K-Kt 4
22 K-R-Q	P-K 4	47 K-Q 7	B-B 3
23 B-K 3	K-Q 2	48 P-Kt 5	K-B 5
24 B-B 5	R-R 8	49 P-Kt 6	Resigns.
25 K-R-Q 2	K-K 3		

The score now reads: Lasker 5; Steinitz 2; drawn 2.

Of these two great masters, *The Newark Call* says: "Lasker is at the threshold of his career, and Steinitz at the end of his, and it will not be at all remarkable if the young player wrests the championship from the old one. The time must come when Steinitz will be compelled to yield, and it may be now. He fully appreciates the strength of his opponent, and says he is the finest end game player in the world. Mr. Steinitz's ever-readiness to concede the merit of other players is one of his most honorable characteristics. Never was there a player more generous in this regard."

PROBLEM NO. 5.

By B. G. Laws, London.

From *The British Chess Magazine*.

White to play and mate in three moves.

James Mason's "The Principles of Chess" is the latest contribution to text-books on the science of the game. Published by Horace Cox, London.

The Showalter-Hodges match for the championship of America was to have been a seven-games-up contest, but after the sixteenth game, each player having won six games, while four were drawn, it was decided to make the match one of eleven games up. The purse of one hundred dollars, however, provided by the Manhattan Club, would go to the winner of the seventh game Showalter won the game.

Feeding the Sick.

In many instances invalids are restricted by physicians to easily digestible food; usually boiled or sterilized milk is prescribed. In such cases the value of Borden's Peerless Brand Evaporated Cream, or Unsweetened Condensed Milk is apparent. Prepared by N. Y. Condensed Milk Co.

Current Events.

Monday, April 9.

In the Senate, Mr. Hill makes a speech on the Tariff Bill, opposing the Income Tax; Mr. Patrick Walsh is sworn in. . . . The House discusses District of Columbia matters. . . . The coke-region strikers agree to work on the H. C. Frick scale. . . . The United States Chilian Claims Commission expires by limitation, after awarding damages to the amount of \$240,000 against Chile.

The Bering-Sea Bill passes its third reading in the British House of Commons; John Morley's resolution to devote to other uses the day fixed for debating the motion against the Lords is carried by a vote of 268 to 244, the Radicals and Parliaments supporting the Government. . . . Cholera is prevalent in Constantinople. . . . Admiral da Gama and his staff escape from the Portuguese warship on which they had been confined; insurgent successes in Rio Grande do Sul are reported.

Tuesday, April 10.

In the Senate, Mr. Lodge speaks on the Tariff Bill, attacking the general principle underlying it; Mr. Walcott's resolution to coin Mexican silver dollars is passed. . . . In the House, routine business occupies the day. . . . Admiral Benham is retired from active service in the Navy under the age of limitation. . . . Coxey's army is storm-bound at Uniontown, Pa. . . . The charter elections in New Jersey result in sweeping Republican victories. . . . The inquiry of the Congressional Committee into Judge Jenkins' order restraining Northern Pacific employees from striking is concluded at Milwaukee. . . . The caucus of House Democrats adopts a resolution in favor of the repeal of the tax on State-bank circulation.

The Bering-Sea Bill passes its first reading in the House of Lords. . . . Emilio Castelar leaves the Republican Party of Spain and joins the Monarchists. . . . It is reported that Admiral Mello has captured Rio Grande. . . . John Redmond declares his intention of forcing a dissolution of Parliament at the earliest opportunity.

Wednesday, April 11.

In the Senate, Mr. Hale speaks in opposition to the Tariff Bill. . . . No voting quorum in the House. The strikers in the Pennsylvania coke-region renew their attacks on mining-property. . . . The United Mine-Workers of America, in national convention at Columbus, O., order a general strike of miners, to go into effect April 21; 300,000 men will be involved. . . . The *Bear*, the *Busch*, and the *Cortwin* are ordered to get ready to patrol Bering Sea and prevent illegal sealing.

The Newfoundland Ministry resigns. . . . Australia's unemployed are becoming desperate. . . . King Kabba Rega, whose territory adjoins Uganda, over which the British East Africa Company claims a protectorate, has been defeated by a force sent out under Major Owen, and his kingdom may be included in its protectorate.

Thursday, April 12.

In the Senate, Mr. Peffer speaks on the Tariff Bill. . . . In the House, a new rule is offered to fine members for refusing to vote, and filibustering is resorted to to prevent its adoption.

The Bering-Sea Bill read a second time in the House of Lords; no Scotch Home Rule Bill is on the Government programme; Sir William Harcourt explains that the naval policy has not been embodied in a Bill, because the Government does not wish to give the Lords control over expenditures for that purpose. . . . Peixoto is reported to have recaptured Paranagua and to hold Rio Grande.

Friday, April 13.

In the Senate, Mr. Peffer concludes his speech on the Tariff, and Mr. Mitchell makes an argument against the Bill; Mr. Hill intimates that he is in favor of adopting the Reed rule of counting a quorum in the Senate. . . . No quorum in the House. . . . A Democratic caucus of Representatives is called to report a quorum-counting rule. . . . Employees of the Western Division of the Great Northern Railroad strike against a wage-reduction, and allow nothing but mail to be moved. . . . David Dudley Field, the jurist, dies at the age of ninety-nine. . . . Coxey's army crosses the Maryland line.

President Carnot of France is not a candidate for re-election, on account of illness. . . . Admiral Mello is forced to leave Rio Grande. . . . The Registration Reform Bill passes its first reading in the British House of Commons; the Speaker reprimands the Tories for filibustering.

Saturday, April 14.

In the Senate, Mr. Quay speaks in opposition to the Tariff Bill; Mr. Hill introduces a resolution to amend the rules so as to permit pairs to be counted in making a quorum. . . . No quorum in the House. . . . Senator Vance of North Carolina dies. . . . The jury in the Pollard-Breckinridge case awards a verdict of fifteen thousand dollars for the plaintiff. . . . The New York Senate

Police Investigating Committee adjourns until the close of the session of the Legislature.

Admiral Mello and his fifteen hundred troops surrender to the Uruguayan authorities, and the rebellion is over. . . . The Egyptian Cabinet resigns.

Sunday, April 15.

A new quorum-counting rule is practically agreed upon by the Democrats in the House Committee on Rules. . . . The Great Northern strike spreads to fifteen hundred miles of the line.

Justin McCarthy addresses a meeting, and declares that the present Cabinet is friendly to Home Rule. . . . Nubar Pasha constructs a new Egyptian Cabinet.

FOREIGN BREVITIES.

THE FOOTMAN: "Master is furious because the carriage is kept waiting. Is not madame ready yet?"

THE MAID: "She will be in a minute. She's only changing her paint to match her new hair."—*Journal four Rire, Paris.*

THE MOTHER-IN-LAW: "Is this the time to come to supper? My daughter is boiling with indignation."

MR. LATEOUT: "Anything to re-d-duce the c-coal bill."—*Der Floh, Vienna.*

IN A PARIS RESTAURANT: "Garçon, this beef-steak is as hard as leather."

"Pardon me, sir, but I have made a mistake. I judged from your countenance that you were a gentleman of some originality, but you have just said the same thing as all the other patrons of the establishment."—*Le Masque de Fer, Paris.*

AUNT MARY (to her nephew, whom she heard preach for the first time): "John, why did you become a minister?"

THE REV. FIFTHLY: "I heard the voice of God calling me, auntie."

AUNT MARY (mildly): Are you quite sure He meant it, John?"—*Der Schalk, Berlin.*

SMITH (to Myers, who walks about wringing his hands): "What on earth is the matter with you? You look as if you wanted to commit suicide!"

MYERS: "I have lost every cent!"

SMITH: "How awful! I knew you had gone bankrupt, but I did not know that you had lost money by it."—*Lustige Blätter, Berlin.*

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THE Standard Dictionary

The Review in The New York Evening Post.

The following letter was sent to the New York *Evening Post* and its weekly edition, *The Nation*, on March 20. The letter has not as yet appeared in the columns of either paper:

To the Editor of the *Evening Post*:

In your review of the "Funk & Wagnalls Standard Dictionary" are statements that have made an erroneous impression upon the minds of some of your readers, indicated by letters daily received by us, which kindly permit us to correct. Your table, showing the proportionate space occupied by different letters in several dictionaries, is interesting, and you justly intimate that it is important that a dictionary should be well proportioned in the sense of doing equal justice to different parts of the alphabet.

To avoid the error which "so easily besets" the makers of dictionaries and cyclopedias, that of unintentional favoritism to certain letters, especially to those in the upper half of the alphabet, the following plan was adopted by the editors of the "Standard": A table was compiled, somewhat after the plan suggested in your review, in which was given the number of pages allotted to each letter in all of the well-proportioned dictionaries and cyclopedias, with the proportion that each letter bore to the whole of the work containing it. From this a scale was carefully calculated which showed the exact space to be occupied by each letter. This plan was not adopted until after the completion of "A" and a portion of "B," but it has been followed closely for all of the succeeding letters of the alphabet, the variation of any letter from the scale being only a slight per cent. So deeply impressed were the editors with the importance of the Dictionary being well-proportioned, that not only were the different sets of galley-proofs measured, to know how much to "cut" (it was always "cut," never "add," for copy and proof invariably showed too much), but at frequent intervals, all words in the copy (first in handwritten copy, then again in the type-written copy) were counted, and not vocabulary words alone, but every word of the text. So carefully was this watched by the editors that when the printers reached the end of the letter "L" the actual number of pages (1060) was only six in excess of the number called for by the scale (1054). The variation of your table from the working one which the editors of the "Standard" framed for their guidance, is due possibly to the fact that their measurements were applied to a much wider range of word-books.

Your reviewer, in estimating the number of words in the "Standard," says that he has taken, "in the Ds, Fs, Gs, and Hs, evenly distributed alphabetic intervals, amounting in the well-proportioned International Webster to the 150th part of the whole," and has counted the words in both the Century and the "Standard," "rejecting mere variations of spelling and other very slight differences," finding "1207 in the former and 1243 in the latter," making a total of 181,000 words in the Century and 186,000 in the "Standard," which, he thinks, "no doubt, is about the truth." This is comparatively a slight matter, but your reviewer errs in taking too few words to make a safe average. We have had counted, and have verified the count, the first ten pages in the same letters selected by your reviewer,—D, F, G, and H ($\frac{1}{10}$ of the 2,120 pages allotted to definition), and find the following:

Vocabulary words,	$4,585 \times 53 =$	243,005
Variants,	$478 \times 53 =$	25,334
Phrases,	$479 \times 53 =$	25,387
Total,		293,726

It happens that these selected 40 pages are somewhat less than the average, as they do not contain any "tables" or extended "lists" as under *apple*,

coin, *constellation*, *element*, *in*. The Appendix, which will have nearly 50,000 entries, is not counted in the above.

These figures agree substantially with estimates based upon the actual count of the words and phrases in several entire letters; also with the estimate based upon the working vocabulary cards, which are numbered consecutively to 262,883. Variants and phrases are "run in," in each instance, on the card on which is written the accepted form of the word or the word that is the principal element in the phrase.

In the following your reviewer is ungenerous:

"Dr. Funk has inserted all the words in the Century Dictionary, with a very few omissions, for which no reason is discernible, unless they were made because good manners prescribes that something shall be left."

The vocabulary of the "Standard" was made: (1) By compiling into one alphabetical list the vocabularies of all authoritative, general, technical and dialectical dictionaries,—nearly 50 in all. (2) By reading the works of several thousand representative authors of the various ages of English literature, from Chaucer to the present time, for words and meanings not recorded by other lexicographers. (3) By extensive inquiries for new important terms in the sciences and arts and for general handicraft terms. (4) By a wide search for important dialectical terms. If there is any good word to be found in the Century, or in any other dictionary, and not to be found in the "Standard," that would be a defect calling for criticism.

Judgment will differ as to whether this word or that should be included or excluded. Your reviewer calls attention to several words that were omitted, some of which we find had been upon our vocabulary cards, but were canceled by the editors as, in their judgment, unimportant. Other of the words, as *heterokinesy*, *dissuava*, *doxoscopy*, *dyadison*, are, as far as our investigation has gone, nonce words, so very rare indeed as not to be recorded in Stormonth, Worcester, International, Encyclopædic, Imperial, or the Century. The definition of "Burton ale" is given under *ale*; "drop-handkerchief," under *drop*; *dupper* appears in its proper vocabulary place. The problem of inclusion or exclusion of words is one of the most perplexing the editors of a dictionary have to solve.

It is impossible in so extensive a work to avoid all errors, and we are earnestly inviting closest criticism, that the errors may be detected and corrected. The criticisms sent to us are submitted to the editors in charge of the departments to which the words criticized respectively belong. Professor Simon Newcomb has just written us that the figure of the 47th proposition in Euclid, *asses' bridge*, is correctly drawn, and that the face of a polyhedron is correctly and fully defined under *face*, *a side or surface of a solid*; and that he advises no change.

The many variants given of "daffodil" look rather amusing, we confess, but are they excessive? We give five variant forms; the Century, which all admit was edited with discriminating judgment, gives six, three of which are accorded vocabulary prominence. Your reviewer, we suspect, was in a mirthful mood in pointing his finger at this word, as he, himself, was one of the editors of the Century, he personally and good-humoredly having revealed to us his identity.*

FUNK & WAGNALLS COMPANY.

New York, March 21, 1894.

A LETTER IN THE NATION.

ZOOLOGY IN THE "STANDARD DICTIONARY"

To the Editor of the *Nation*.

SIR: When I assumed the charge of the zoölogical department of the "Standard Dictionary," I surveyed, with all the care I could give, the field before me, and concluded that the wisest course was to admit most of the current family names, in the higher classes at least. The chief reason for so doing was that the family is a large unit, much used in the discussion of morphological and zoögeographical problems, and any one may come up in some important and unexpected connection. For example, the family *Gracilariidæ* (not *Gracilariidæ*, as your printer has made you say) is of interest to horticulturists and arboriculturists on account of its attacks upon the leaves of various plants. One of the best-known species infests the common lilac in some regions, and it has been the subject of extensive studies. It seems to me that the name of a group with such a record deserves the admission it has obtained in a dictionary having the scope of the "Standard" or "Century." The derivatives apt to be used are given in the simple words "*gracilariid*, *a* and *n*," and "*gracilarioid*, *a*," and indicate the peculiar usage of entomologists. Examples of the constant use of analogous names are innumerable. In *Insect Life*, published by the Department of Agriculture, kindred words may be found in every issue. The function of such words is chiefly to avoid circumlocution. Thus, *gracilariid* is preferable to a "moth of the family *Gracilariidæ*," or even to "one of the *Gracilariidæ*."

My own desire and deed were to keep out unnecessary words and such as should not be in an English dictionary. Many thousands found in other dictionaries were therefore excluded. Doubtless I have often failed in judgment, but my own action was the reverse of "padding" or unnecessary augmentation of the mountain of words.

THEO. GILL.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 17, 1894.

*A somewhat amusing incident is connected with this review, which, of the nearly 500 American, English and Canadian reviews that have been published, is the only one that could be called hostile, or even unfriendly. Some two years ago a gentleman of unquestioned ability in several directions applied repeatedly for a position on the office editorial staff of the Dictionary. The editors in charge did not think it well to grant him his request, but did assign him a special task. This task, either through a misunderstanding or otherwise, was not done in a satisfactory manner, and it was assigned to another to be done *de novo*. The price agreed upon, however, was paid in full, the same as if the work had been wholly acceptable. The gentleman renewed his application for an editorial position, and being again denied he became, it was thought, unduly wroth, and took the trouble to give the superintending editor to understand verbally and in writing that he would "review" the Dictionary when published. Shortly after the "review" in the *Nation* and the *Post* appeared, we were much amused on being informed by this gentleman, with evident glee and much emphasis, that he wrote it, and on being asked by him, "How did you like it?"